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TRUMP vs. THE ESTABLISHMENT

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UN Climate Summit: Shackling the Planet to "Save" It
Governments and dictators from around the world have signed on to an agreement that purports to not only end climate change, but world poverty. In reality, it won't better the environment, and it will make individuals less free and spread poverty. (January 4, 2016, 48pp) TNA160104

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Trump vs. the Establishment
The bigwigs who are attacking Donald Trump are not all typical liberals; many are professed Republicans. But they all have in common a desire for more, bigger, and more costly government, and want the status quo to remain. (September 5, 2016, 48pp) TNA160905

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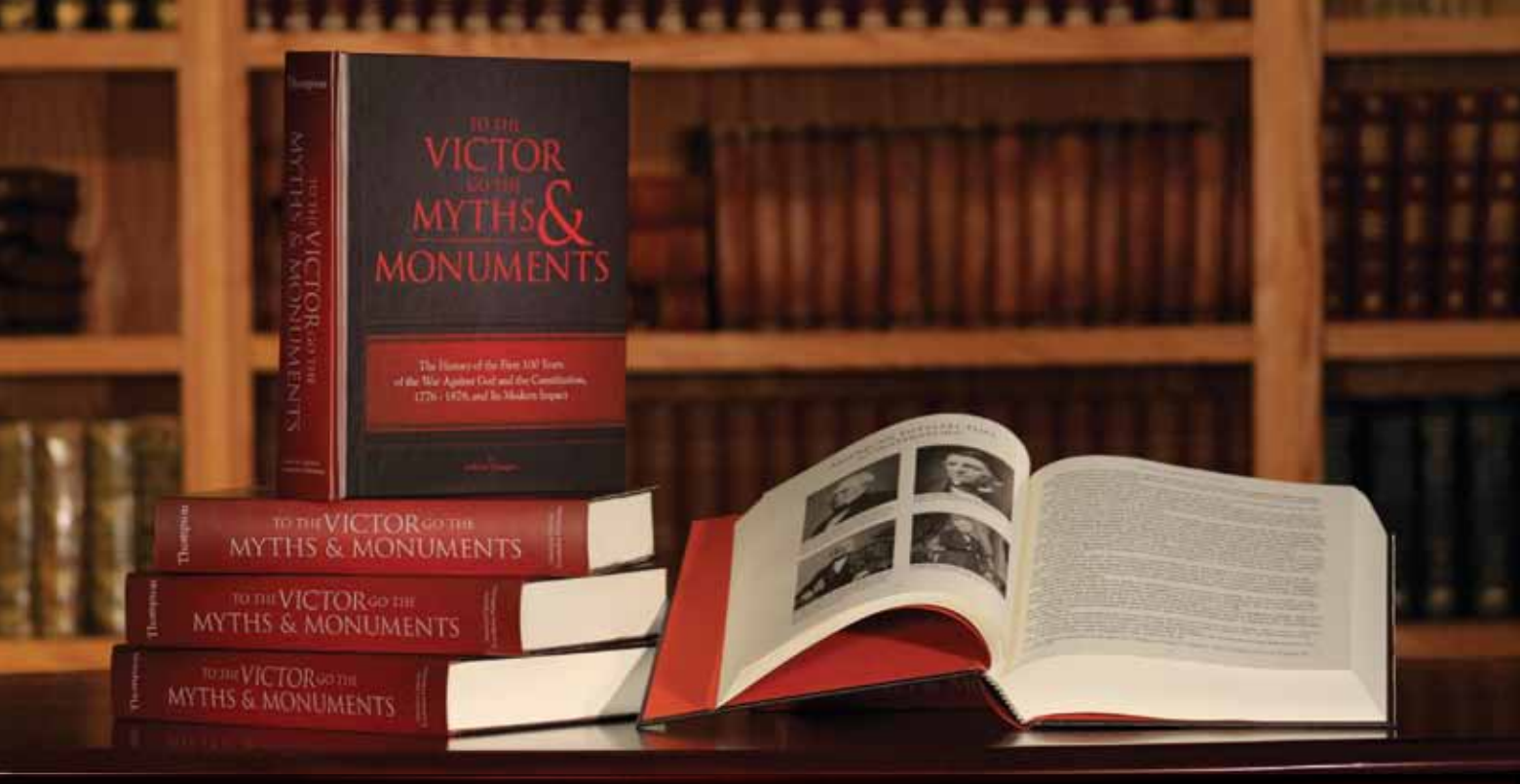

To the Victor Go the Myths & Monuments:

The History of the First 100 Years of the War Against God and the Constitution, 1776-1876, and Its Modern Impact

By Arthur R. Thompson, CEO, The John Birch Society

(2016ed, 492pp, hb, 1/$24.95ea; 2-11/$23.95ea; 12+/$20.00ea) BKTVGMMHB

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In a film that exposes the incompetence and corruption at the heart of the United Nations, filmmaker Ami Horowitz takes us on a harrowing, yet often hilarious, trip through the farcical world of the United Nations. (2012, 33min, cased DVD, 1/$14.95; 5-9/$12.95ea; 10+/$11.95ea) **DVDUNM**

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Join with JBS to *Get US Out!* of the UN by creating sufficient understanding among voters, business owners, and other community leaders to persuade Congress to approve the American Sovereignty Restoration Act that would "end membership of the United States in the United Nations." (2013, four-color trifold pamphlet, 1/$0.20; 100-499/$0.15ea; 500-999/$0.13ea; 1,000+/$0.10ea) **PUNAY**

World Federalism 101

World Federalism 101, by Rick Biondi and Alex Newman, explores the history of the World Federalist and Atlantic Union movements in the U.S. Congress and beyond, as well as exposing proponents of world government using their own words and deeds. (2014, pb, 212pp, $16.95; 5-9/$14.95ea; 10+/$13.95ea) **BKWF1Ø1**

America and the United Nations

This analysis of the United Nations traces its history from its forerunner, the League of Nations, up to the present, and compares the basic foundational documents of the UN with those of the United States with regard to the protection of human rights. (2013, 45pp, pb, 1/$2.95ea; 10-24/$2.00ea; 25-49/$1.50ea; 50-99/$1.00ea; 100+/$.95ea) **BKLTAAUN**

United Nations: On the Brink of Becoming a World Government

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Inside the United Nations

The United Nations has been in existence for over 70 years, but its origins and objectives remain misunderstood by many Americans. This book is a brief, readable introduction to the United Nations and to the people who created and support it. (2013ed, 135pp, pb, 1/$9.95ea; 5-19/$8.95ea; 20-59/$7.95ea; 60+/$6.95ea) **BKIUN**

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The New American

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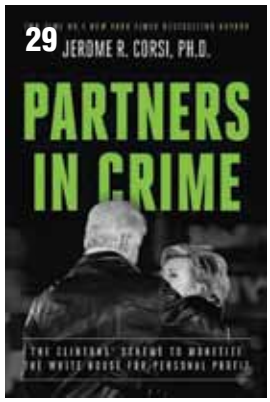

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The New American

Printed in the U.S.A. • ISSN 0885-6540
P.O. Box 8040 • Appleton, WI 54912
920-749-3784 • 920-749-3785 (fax)
www.thenewamerican.com
editorial@thenewamerican.com

Rates are $49 per year (Canada, add $9; foreign, add $27) Copyright ©2016 by American Opinion Publishing, Inc. Periodicals postage paid at Appleton, WI and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send any address changes to The New American, P.O. Box 8040, Appleton, WI 54912.

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The New American is published twice monthly by American Opinion Publishing Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of The John Birch Society.

Presidential Politics

For generations, as The New American's senior editor William F. Jasper explains in his cover story article, "Trump vs. the Establishment" (page 10), the power elites have exercised significant control over both major political parties, particularly at the presidential level. The Republican Party may appeal to conservatives and the Democratic Party to liberals, but at the top, both parties have ultimately supported more government at home and more intervention and nation building abroad, the rhetoric notwithstanding.

Thus, the voters may at times "throw the rascals out" by replacing a Republican president with a Democrat, or a Democratic president with a Republican, without a substantive change in the direction of our ship of state toward more government and internationalism actually taking place. Consider, for example, that during the presidency of liberal Democrat Bill Clinton, the budget of the U.S. government actually grew at a slower rate than it did during either of the two "conservative" Republican presidencies that bookended his administration — those of George H. W. Bush and George W. Bush.

But the political insiders who claim to support the people while advancing their own interests do not exercise complete control. In 1964, Bill Jasper points out, someone the insiders viewed as a real threat to their agenda became the standard-bearer of the Grand Old Party. That nominee, of course, was Barry Goldwater, and he was targeted for destruction by the establishment-controlled media echo chamber, resulting in a landslide victory for Lyndon Johnson.

And now, history seems to be repeating itself with the smear campaign being waged against Donald Trump.

This is not to say that Trump is the perfect candidate challenging the power elites who seek the consolidation of economic and political power on a global scale. "From a solid, constitutionalist perspective, he has many faults, warts, and deficiencies," Jasper acknowledges in his article. "However, it should be clear from the unprecedented magnitude and ferocity of the attacks leveled against him that Trump represents an existential threat to the CFR [Council on Foreign Relations] insiders' grand schemes for a New World Order." Those schemes include, of course, the so-called free trade agenda to submerge the sovereignty of our country in the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) and Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership supported by both the Obama administration and top Republican leaders, as well as overwhelming the country with both legal and illegal immigration. Opposition to both these schemes, as anyone who has been paying any attention whatsoever to the news knows, has been a signature part of Trump's campaign.

We encourage you to read Bill Jasper's cover story to gain a much better perspective on the attacks on Trump and the rationale behind those attacks. But we have three other recommendations as well.

First, please read the other articles in this issue on presidential politics, including the three articles about third-party nominees for president and vice president — the Libertarian Party's Gary Johnson and William Weld (page 21), the Constitution Party's Darrell Castle and Scott Bradley (page 23), and the Green Party's Jill Stein and Ajamu Baraka (page 25). After all, there are more people running for president and vice president than Trump-Pence and Clinton-Kaine, and anyone who is planning to vote should be familiar with them, regardless if they plan to vote for the best candidates who have a realistic chance of winning, or the best candidates on the ballot — period. (The New American does not endorse candidates. Our purpose is to better inform, recognizing that better understanding on the part of involved Americans will ultimately translate into better government.)

Second, please keep in mind that even though the presidential race gets mega publicity and attention every four years, under our system of government, the Congress possesses more power than the president. "All legislative Powers herein granted," the Constitution explicitly states, "shall be vested in a Congress of the United States." Thus, it is extremely important who is elected to Congress.

Finally, please take full advantage of the issues now being debated in the presidential campaign to create understanding about those issues — from TPP to immigration. ■

— Gary Benoit

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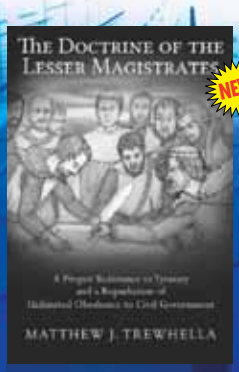

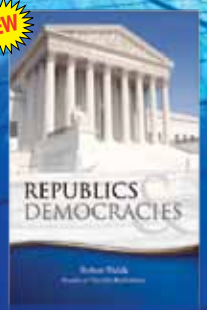

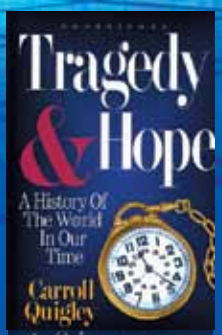

The Doctrine of the Lesser Magistrates

The Doctrine of the Lesser Magistrates is a historic tool that provides proven guidelines for proper and legitimate resistance to tyranny, often without causing any major upheaval in society. The doctrine teaches us how to rein in lawless acts by government and restore justice in our nation. (2013, pb, 115pp, $13.95) **BKDLM**

Republics & Democracies — Booklet

This essay was first delivered by JBS founder Robert Welch as a speech at the Constitution Day luncheon in Chicago on September 17, 1961. The principles he espoused in that speech are timeless. The American Republic will endure only so long as those principles are sufficiently understood by each succeeding generation of Americans. (2016ed, 34pp, pb, 1/$2.95; 10-24/$2.00ea; 25-49/$1.50ea; 50-99/$1.00ea; 100+/$0.75ea) **BKLTRAD**

The NeoConservatives — Two-DVD set

Discover how to identify a neoconservative, and learn about some of the policies and actions of a few current neocon senators with this two-DVD set, which includes *NeoConservatives: Changing American Politics*, and *Who Are the Neoconservatives?* (2014, 56 total min, DVD, 1/$8.95; 10-24/$7.95ea; 25-49/$6.95ea; 50-99/ $5.95ea; 100-249/$5.25; 250+/$4.75ea) **DVDSTN**

Council on Foreign Relations — Booklet

Despite promises of "change," as uttered by Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, and now Barack Obama, successive presidential administrations have in common the fact that important posts are staffed by individuals, from the same small organization, who direct our nation's policies. (2016ed, 15pp, pb, 1/$1.95ea; 10-24/$1.25ea; 25-49/$1.00ea; 50-99/$.70ea; 100+/$.50ea) **BKLTCFR**

Tragedy & Hope: A History of the World in Our Time

The late professor Carroll Quigley praises the efforts of an "international Anglophile network" whose goal is to rule the world. He boasts of having been permitted "to examine its papers and secret records," and confirms the existence of an overarching conspiracy. (1997ed, 1348pp, hb, $42.95) **BKTAH**

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Obama Releases Details of Mass-murder by Drone Program

In early August, the Obama administration quietly released more information on its illegal mass-murder-via-drone program, in which the White House unilaterally creates a list of people around the world to assassinate without charges, trial, or even a semblance of due process. The information was released in response to a court order stemming from a lawsuit by the far-left American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

The heavily redacted disclosures include "presidential policy guidance," darkly dubbed the "Playbook," on murdering people "suspected" of terrorism without trial or charges. Also released were a series of Department of Defense documents related to the program. The documents outline the "rules" Obama imposed on his own assassination program in 2013 — illegal rules for an illegal program that can apparently be "waived" whenever Obama feels like he really wants to murder a particular person.

AP Images

"We welcome the release of these documents, and particularly the release of the Presidential Policy Guidance [PPG] that has supplied the policy framework for the drone campaign since May 2013," ACLU Deputy Legal Director Jameel Jaffer said in a statement. "The PPG provides crucial information about policies that have resulted in the deaths of thousands of people, including hundreds of non-combatants, and about the bureaucracy that the Obama administration has constructed to oversee and implement those policies."

Among other points, the newly released documents give some insight into the illegal policy behind the murders. Essentially, according to the documents, any suspect Obama wants to eliminate can be executed if there is "near certainty" that he or she is present, that civilians will not be killed, and that the murder is supposedly needed to "achieve U.S. policy objectives." It appears that even those minimal "standards" have been waived, as Obama has rained death and destruction down on thousands of people worldwide from unmanned drones.

Unless Congress or the courts act to stop it, the usurped unconstitutional power to murder people will soon be handed to either Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton. After that, it might go to somebody even more dangerous.

World's Elderly Could Soon Outnumber Children

In an article published by Inter Press Service on August 8, Joseph Chamie — who was once the director of the United Nations Population Division — noted the increasing number of nations worldwide experiencing a "demographic turning point," where there are fewer children than elderly in a population. Chamie, who recently retired as director of research at the Center for Migration Studies, where he also edited the journal *International Migration Review*, calls that demographic turning point the "Historic Reversal."

Chamie noted that this turning point first occurred in Italy in 1995, and by 2000 the "Historic Reversal" had also taken place in six more countries — Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Japan, Portugal, and Spain.

According to Chamie, "By 2075 the world's projected population of 10.7 billion is expected to pass through the Historic Reversal with elderly persons becoming increasingly more numerous than children. The only major region that will not experience the Historic Reversal during the 21st century is Africa, which is projected to have 1.5 children per elderly person in 2100 with some countries, such as Niger, Nigeria and Somalia, having more than twice as many children as elderly. At that time, all the other major regions of the world are expected to have about twice as many elderly persons as children."

Chamie identified what is probably the most frequently discussed problem related to the demographic change: how countries will sustain their social security programs when there are not enough workers to support the increasing number of retirees.

Chamie discusses options to save old-age pension programs in the "Historic Reversal" countries, including adding immigrant workers, but thankfully notes the downside of that proposal: "Eventually those workers also age, join the elderly population and rely on government pension programs." He also is pessimistic about the obvious long-term solution, encouraging a rise in the birth rate, writing: "Even if fertility rates were to rise, which seem unlikely in the near term, it would take a couple of decades before the additional children could join the work force."

ISIS "Hit Squads" Hiding Among Migrants in Germany

If the attacks in Paris and Brussels weren't enough to convince people that there could be jihadists among Muslim immigrants, now we have a damning admission from the deputy head of Bavaria's spy agency, Manfred Hauser. Writes the *Sun*, "ISIS hit squads and 'sleeper cells' intent on waging war on Europe have entered Germany disguised as refugees, a leading spy chief [Hauser] has confirmed. Intelligence agencies also have 'irrefutable' evidence they are following a command structure, meaning a coordinated attack like those seen in Paris and Brussels is 'likely.'"

AP Images

Making his comments on the August 11 edition of BBC's show *Today*, Hauser said, "We have substantial reports that among the refugees there are hit squads. There are hundreds of these reports, some from refugees themselves. We are still following up on these, and we haven't investigated all of them fully. We have to accept that we have hit squads and sleeper cells in Germany."

Tragically, this scenario seems to be a reality wherever the Muslim migrants have landed. Consider, for instance, that an ISIS jihadist just revealed that he has "brothers" operating in Mexico who can easily infiltrate the United States. Wrote the online Gateway Pundit on August 11: "Earlier this year a top ranking Homeland Security official acknowledged that Mexican drug cartels were helping ISIS sneak across the southern border to scope out targets for terrorist attacks. ISIS operative Shaykh Mahmood Omar Khabir has reportedly been training militants near the US border near Ciudad Juarez for the past year. Khabir actually brags … that the border region is so open that he 'could get in with a handful of men, and kill thousands of people in Texas or in Arizona in the space of a few hours.'"

Of course, he may not have to, because there no doubt are terrorists among the large numbers of Muslims the Obama administration has, against popular will, invited into our country. Note here that more Muslims have come to the United States since 9/11 than during all of our history prior to that fateful day.

Big Data Knows You Better Than You Know Yourself

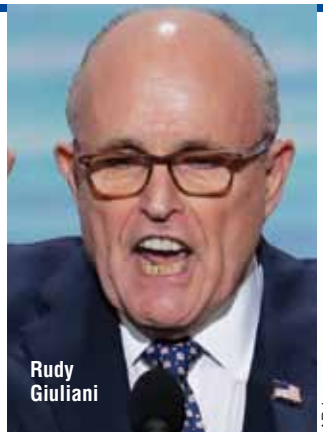
With overreaching three-letter government agencies and nosy corporations working daily to increase their ability to collect data, the degree to which most residents of planet Earth are spied upon is growing exponentially. And most of the subjects of that surveillance still have little idea how it works or why it matters. Data-mining and data-analysis work hand-in-hand to create a startlingly accurate picture of the lives of nearly everyone.

One company involved in compiling digital dossiers on every living person is IDI, which has "already built a profile on every American adult, including young people who wouldn't be swept up in conventional databases, which only index transactions," according to an August 5 report by *Bloomberg*. Chief Executive Officer Derek Dubner told *Bloomberg* that, whereas most databases would miss some young people (because they still live at home and have not purchased things such as cars and houses and do not have utilities registered in their names), his company is able to get data on them by looking at other data points.

While companies such as Google, Apple, and Facebook continue to decry the evils of government surveillance, it appears that the real motive behind Big Data's resistance to that government surveillance is monetary. There are untold billions of dollars to be made by controlling and manipulating the data that on one hand is produced by our actions and on the other hand influences those actions.

Government surveillance is the illegitimate offspring of corporate surveillance. Washington did not invent the devices and technologies that are used to gather and transmit the minute and personal details of our lives; Silicon Valley did. Since then, a growing number of consumers have adopted each new wave of those technologies without much thought to the types or amount of data being given away.

Now is the time for those concerned about privacy and liberty in the digital age to learn to protect them. The next generation will inherit not only those technologies, but the attitudes of this generation about them. What one generation accepts, the next expects. ■


Rudy Giuliani

AP Images

Former New York Mayor Considers Trump America's Last Chance

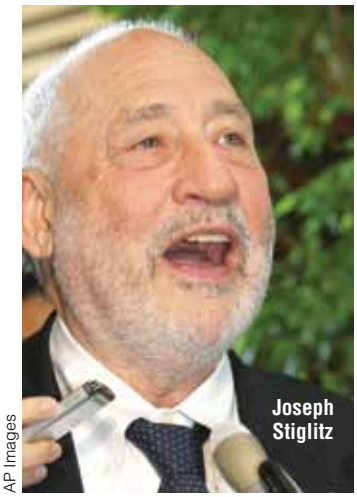
"There's no next election. This is it. There's no more time for us left to revive our great country."

An outspoken supporter of Donald Trump, **Rudy Giuliani** *made clear his worry that Democrat Hillary Clinton might win in November. He considers her to be anti-law enforcement, as well as a supporter of liberal and leftist candidates for the Supreme Court.*

Brexit Vote Didn't Kill the Plan to Build a Nuclear Power Plant

"It is encouraging that the investment isn't being scrapped because of the result [of the vote in Britain]."

Demonstrating a vote of confidence in Britain's future despite the vote of the people to quit the European Union, France's UDF utility company approved a plan to build England's first nuclear power plant in a generation. A researcher at Capital Economics in London, **Paul Hollingsworth** *expressed delight at news of the decision.*


Joseph Stiglitz

AP Images

Confidence in European Union Disappearing

"It is hard to believe that the muddling-through can continue for another five years. Greece is still in depression, no better than it was a year ago. The likelihood is that in one country or another there will be enough support for another referendum, and an exit will occur. That will begin the process of a real unraveling of the eurozone."

Economist **Joseph Stiglitz** *issued his pessimism about the euro and the European Union in an interview about his new book,* The Euro: How a Common Currency Threatens the Future of Europe.

Is Lying a Routine Practice for the Democrat Candidate?

"There are so many lies now that she lies about her lying."

Columnist **Charles Krauthammer** *finds Hillary Clinton's lack of truthfulness absolutely stunning.*

Turkish Leader Blames America for Alleged Coup Attempt

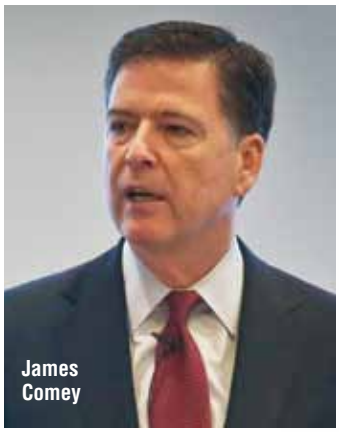
"The coup attempt has actors inside Turkey, but its script was written outside. Unfortunately the West is supporting terrorism and stands by the coup plotters."

By "West," Turkey's President **Recep Tayyip Erdoğan** *means the United States. He pointed to the presence within the U.S. for 15 years of his bitter foe, Fethullah Gulen, and demanded Gulen's return to Turkey.*

CFR Heavyweight Offers His Advice to Republicans

"Even if we can avoid the calamity of a Trump presidency, the GOP has much soul-searching to do. The party needs to rethink its reflexive aversion to elites and ideas. Catering to populist anger with extremist proposals cannot bring political success."

Obviously unsettled by rising citizen antipathy toward establishment elitists, CFR senior fellow **Max Boot** *made known his awareness that he and his elitist comrades are no longer considered by many as the best leaders for our country.*


James Comey

AP Images

FBI Director Warns of More Attacks After Victory Over ISIS

"At some point there is going to be a terrorist diaspora out of Syria like we've never seen before. Not all of the Islamic State killers are going to die on the battlefield."

FBI Director **James Comey** *predicts that the anti-ISIS coalition, which includes American forces, will succeed in defeating ISIS. But he believes that many ISIS warriors will head for Europe and America to wage terrorism against the caliphate's enemies.* ■

— Compiled by John F. McManus

TRUMP vs. THE ESTABLISHMENT

Not since Republican Barry Goldwater ran for president in 1964 has a candidate been so universally attacked by bigwigs in both parties because he might upset the status quo.

by William F. Jasper

Hedge fund billionaires, Wall Street mega-bankers, Hollywood movie moguls, RINOs (Republicans In Name Only), ultra-Left "Progressive" Democrats, and Big Media journalistas have all ganged up on one man. Together with an AstroTurf army of neocon pundits, radical academics, student activists, and street agitators funded by the Big Foundations and Big Government, they have united to stop that one man: Donald J. Trump.

George Soros, David Rockefeller, Bill Gates, Warren Buffett, Michael Bloomberg, Steven Spielberg, Jeff Bezos, and a bevy of other uber-rich titans have teamed up with *National Review*, the *Weekly Standard,* the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, CNN, MSNBC, CBS, ABC, NPR, et al., to ensure that "The Donald" never makes it into the White House. Some of these plutocrats — Soros, Buffett, and Spielberg — have taken the full "I'm With Her" Hillary

Rodham Clinton loyalty pledge. Many of the anti-Trump "Republican" and "conservative" poseurs, on the other hand, have not formally taken the Hillary plunge, but their implacable "Never Trump" stance amounts to the same thing.

Not since 1964 has the political and financial establishment gone into such full-tilt mode against a presidential candidate. In fact, the establishment elites are shamelessly recycling the same vicious propaganda tactics against Donald Trump that they employed against Republican U.S. Senator Barry Goldwater, then the rising star of the conservative/anti-communist movement.

Piling On the Propaganda

Goldwater, the establishment media choir relentlessly chimed, was an "extremist" and a "racist," and was responsible for the "climate of hate" that was somehow responsible for the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and the race riots that were then rocking many American cities. Sound familiar? Moreover, voters were repeatedly told, the Arizona solon did not have the "temperament" to be the man with his finger on the nuclear trigger: His "extremism" and "warmongering" could lead to atomic war and global incineration. The anti-Goldwater character assassination campaign culminated with the infamous "daisy ad," the television commercial in which a winsome young girl counting daisy petals disappears in a mushroom cloud.

A remake of the "daisy ad" aimed at Trump is rumored to be in the offing. Back in May, *Politico* interviewed the admen who created "Daisy" and other notorious hit pieces for President Johnson's venomous 1964 TV campaign that revolutionized political commercials.

In the *Politico* interview ("LBJ's Ad Men: Here's How Clinton Can Beat Trump"), two of the still-living members of Johnson's ad team explained how the successful formula they used to smear Goldwater could be used to undermine Trump. Sid Myers, former art director at Doyle Dane Bernbach, the LBJ campaign's advertising firm, and Lloyd Wright, the Democratic National Committee's media coordinator at the time, detailed how some of their dirty tricks that were so effective in 1964 could also work well today.

In the *Politico* interview ("LBJ's Ad Men: Here's How Clinton Can Beat Trump"), two of the still-living members of Johnson's ad team explained how the successful formula they used to smear Goldwater could be used to undermine Trump.

Actually, some of those tricks were already under way against Trump before the *Politico* article appeared. One of the 1964 slime attacks employed the favorite libel of liberals, that conservatives and Republicans are racist KKKers. (The inconvenient reality is that, historically, it has been the Democratic Party and Democratic politicians that have been most closely associated with the Ku Klux Klan.) Myers and Wright led the team that filmed LBJ's commercial featuring a KKK cross-burning with voice-over endorsements of Goldwater. Over the past several months, Big Media reporters and commentators have been churning and rechurning a contrived non-story: that Donald Trump received a KKK endorsement that he did not "immediately" disavow. Why is that a contrived non-story? Well, for several reasons. First of all, there's good reason to believe that this is a "political stunt," which is to say that it is very likely that the whole "endorsement" was a set-up by Trump's opposition to create precisely that slime effect it is having — or that they hope it is having.

The Myers-Wright LBJ hitmen parlayed the KKK smear into another infamous ad known as "Confessions of a Republican," a four-minute monologue in which actor William Bogert, posing as a lifelong Republican coming from a long family history of Republicans, worriedly explained that Goldwater "scares me." "When the head of the Ku Klux Klan, when all these weird groups, come out in favor of the candidate of my party — either they're not Republicans, or I'm not," Bogert said.

Truth be told, Bogert was/is a Republican In Name Only (a RINO), as his most recent performances confirm. The 80-year-old actor has been trotted out by Team Hillary and her media allies over the past several months to reprise his anti-Goldwater

At 101 years old, David Rockefeller remains a top leader of the Council on Foreign Relations, Trilateral Commission, Bilderberg Group, and the "Rockefeller Republican" internationalists.

AP Images

Warren Buffett

Alex Soros

Steven Spielberg

Barry Diller

"Confessions" against the current Republican presidential nominee. As the Republican National Convention was getting under way in Cleveland this past July, the Clinton campaign released a new ad featuring Bogert replaying his 1964 role and explaining why Trump "scares me." However, before the Clinton/Bogert spot was actually run as a commercial, Bogert was featured in friendly interviews with CNN's Don Lemon and MSNBC's Rachel Maddow, and in articles for *Time*, *U.S. News & World Report*, and other similar organs, where he has invariably been presented as a "moderate" Republican, the same as in 1964.

But how "moderate" is a Republican who can support left-wing "Progressive" Democrat Lyndon Johnson in 1964 and

HILLARY'S WALL STREET FAT CATS AND BILLIONAIRE BOYS' CLUB

Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren, and other Democrats lambasted Hillary Clinton for her scandalously enormous campaign donations from Wall Street's biggest banks and hedge funds. Her response has been to double down and take still more campaign lucre, while feigning outrage that anyone would think that any amount of money, no matter how large, could ever corrupt a paragon of virtue such as herself. "Anybody who knows me, who thinks they can influence me, name anything they've influenced me on. Just name one thing," Clinton defiantly charged at a February 3, 2016, televised CNN forum in New Hampshire. "I'm out here every day saying, 'I'm going to shut them down; I'm going after them.'" At an earlier campaign stop in Iowa on January 24, she declared, "I believe strongly that we need to make sure that Wall Street never wrecks Main Street again.... No bank is too big to fail, and no executive is too powerful to jail." However, as the review of Jerome Corsi's new book *Partners In Crime* (see page 39) reveals, it is "Crooked Hillary" and hubby Bill who have, thus far, been "too powerful to jail."

In an internal memo on August 8, Hillary Clinton's campaign manager Robby Mook crowed that the campaign had hauled in $90 million in July, and "we are very proud of the more than $469 million our campaign has raised so far." It is certain to hit well over a half billion dollars before Election Day. And here are some of the principal Lords of Mammon who are providing it: George Soros, hedge fund investor, $9 million to pro-Clinton SuperPACs; Alex Soros, son of George Soros, $1 million to pro-Clinton groups; Steven Spielberg, Hollywood producer/director, $1 million to pro-Clinton SuperPACs; Donald Sussman, Paloma Partners hedge fund, $8.1 million to pro-Clinton SuperPACs; James Simons, Renaissance Technologies investment firm, $9.5 million to pro-Clinton groups; Bernard L. Schwartz, investment banker, $1 million to pro-Clinton groups; Herbert M. Sandler, banker, $3 million to pro-Clinton SuperPACs; Jay Robert and Mary Katherine Pritzker, investors, $6.5 million to pro-Clinton groups.

Additional "Billionaire Club" Hillary supporters include Warren Buffett, the world's second-wealthiest billionaire (according to a July 2016 *Forbes* rating); Jeff Bezos, Amazon.com founder, owner of the *Washington Post*, the world's third-wealthiest billionaire (*Forbes*); Michael Bloomberg, former New York City mayor, Bloomberg News CEO, gun control/global-warming activist; Elon Musk, tech magnate (PayPal, Tesla Motors, SpaceX); Oprah Winfrey, entertainer; Jeffrey Katzenberg, Hollywood movie mogul; Lloyd Blankfein, Goldman Sachs CEO; Meg Whitman, Hewlett Packard CEO; Sheryl Sandberg, Facebook COO; Mark Cuban, Dallas Mavericks owner, reality TV show star; Mortimer Zuckerman, owner/publisher of the *New York Daily News* and *U.S. News & World Report*; Tom Steyer, hedge fund manager/environmental activist; Barry Diller, media and entertainment mogul; and Eric Schmidt, former Google CEO. ■

Oprah Winfrey

Donald Sussman

Mort Zuckerman

Meg Whitman

left-wing "Progressive" Democrat Hillary Clinton in 2016? Rather, Bogert, like other (real or alleged) Republicans jumping on the anti-Trump/pro-Clinton bandwagon, may be best described as a "Rockefeller Republican." That was a much-used and well-understood political term in the 1960s and 1970s, and still is a very relevant label today describing the pro-Big Government, liberal-left, globalist, one-world GOP operatives that masquerade as "moderates." Specifically, it referred to the elitist wing of the GOP led by Nelson Rockefeller (governor of New York, 1959-1973, and vice president, 1974-1977). Nelson, the scion of the ultra-rich Rockefeller banking dynasty and a perennial presidential wannabe, was ignominiously defeated by Goldwater in the 1964 primaries. But for those in the know, "Rockefeller Republican" more accurately described (and still describes) the GOP leaders and agents associated with the "Eastern Establishment" presided over by Nelson's brother David, then chairman of the Chase Manhattan Bank, as well as chairman of the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), the "brain trust" of the Eastern Establishment.

The Rockefeller Republicans of the Eastern Establishment represented the moneyed Wall Street interests that were allied to the Big Government, internationalist agenda of the New Deal/New Frontier Democrats. Like the Democrats, they favored more government spending, more federal regulation and intervention, foreign aid, the United Nations, entangling treaties, judicial activism, abortion, etc. The Rockefeller Republicans were/are a mere echo of the Democrats, thus Goldwater's pledge to offer "a choice, not an echo" to the American people.

But the idea of offering a real choice of political leaders to the American people is actually anathema to the establishment that has captured both the Democrat and Republican parties, and held them under tight control for decades. The reality of American politics was described this way in 1966 by the late Professor Carroll Quigley in his famous book *Tragedy and Hope: A History of the World in Our Time*: "The argument that the two parties should represent opposed ideals and policies, one, perhaps of the Right and the other of the Left, is a foolish idea acceptable only to the doctrinaire and academic thinkers. Instead the two parties should be almost identical, so that the American people can 'throw the rascals out' at any election without leading to any profound or extensive shifts in policy."

Quigley's description above is important not because it represents his own views (although that may also be the case), but because, according to him, it represents the views and operational plans of the ruling elite, the Eastern Establishment, that, de facto, has usurped control over America's financial and political system. Even more importantly, the results of one election cycle after another, over the past 50-60 years, have clearly demonstrated that the change of party does not bring "any profound or extensive shifts in policy."

Dominant Political Desires

Dr. Quigley, a professor of history at Princeton, Harvard, and Georgetown Universities, and a mentor of Bill Clinton, was one of the rare academics who was privileged to study the "secret records" of the Council on Foreign Relations and the "network of power" of which it is a key component.

"There does exist," wrote Quigley, "and has existed for a generation, an international Anglophile network which operates, to some extent, in the way the radical Right believes the Communists act. In fact, this network, which we may identify as the Round Table Groups, has no aversion to cooperating with the Communists, or any other groups, and frequently does so." The chief Round Table Groups to which he refers are the CFR (in the United States) and the Royal Institute of International Affairs (RIIA, also known as Chatham House, in Britain). "I know of the operations of this network," Quigley explained, "because I have studied it for twenty years and was

But how "moderate" is a Republican who can support left-wing "Progressive" Democrat Lyndon Johnson in 1964 and left-wing "Progressive" Democrat Hillary Clinton in 2016?

George Soros

Lloyd Blankfein

Michael Bloomberg

Tom Steyer

permitted for two years, in the early 1960's, to examine its papers and secret records." "I have no aversion to it or to most of its aims and have, for much of my life, been close to it and to many of its instruments," he continued. "I have objected, both in the past and recently, to a few of its policies … but in general my chief difference of opinion is that it wishes to remain unknown, and I believe its role in history is significant enough to be known."

Indeed, now more than ever, the role of this secretive power network "is significant enough to be known." But, unfortunately, far too few are courageous enough to truly "speak truth to power" and expose the increasing stranglehold it exercises over our entire nation, and much of the planet.

Hillary Rodham Clinton's close ties to the globalist establishment, particularly as embodied in its chief operations arm, the CFR, explains why the world government lobby — both Republicans and Democrats — has rushed to her aid and is viciously attacking Trump. By both word and deed, she has proven herself to be a thoroughgoing internationalist, an anti-national sovereignty one-worlder. Although she is not herself a CFR member, her daughter, Chelsea, and husband, Bill, are both members. However, official membership is a mere formality that she, undoubtedly, is forgoing for the time being to avoid needless controversy. Like Bill, she is certain to become an official member when it is expedient. In the meantime, she has left no doubts as to where she stands, having infamously lauded the CFR for guiding the U.S. State Department in "what we should be doing and how we should think," and having referred to Pratt House, the CFR headquarters in New York City, as "the mother ship."

Those paeans of praise came from Hillary Clinton during a July 2009 speech she delivered at the CFR's new Washington, D.C., headquarters, while she was still serving as President Obama's secretary of state. She was introduced by her "good friend," CFR President Richard Haass, who leads the organization's calls for "global governance" and regularly supports ceding U.S. national sovereignty to international bodies. (Naturally, he is also harshly critical of Trump.)

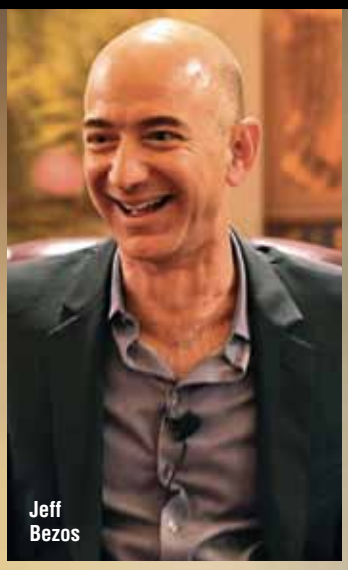
Following her introduction by Haass, Secretary Clinton made this remarkable admission:

> Thank you very much, Richard, and I am delighted to be here in these new headquarters. I have been often to, I guess, the mother ship in New York City, but it's good to have an outpost of the Council right here down the street from the State Department. We get a lot of advice from the Council, so this will mean I won't have as far to go to be told what we should be doing and how we should think about the future.

As U.S. senator for New York and secretary of state, Hillary Rodham Clinton has reliably promoted the CFR "mother ship's" agenda: the UN's International Criminal Court, the UN's Small Arms Treaty, the UN's Convention on the Rights of the Child, the UN's Law of the Sea Treaty, the UN's population control and sexual perversion agenda, the World Trade Organization, the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, and much more. She has also pushed many of these same (and related) programs through the Bill and Hillary Clinton Foundation, while also enriching herself under the guise of philanthropy.

Clinton's words and deeds more than confirm the severe critique of the organization by the late Admiral Chester Ward, who was himself a CFR member for nearly two decades. Admiral Ward, writing in 1977 on the powerful control the private and secretive CFR exercises over official U.S. policy, noted:

> Once the ruling members of CFR have decided that the U.S. Government should adopt a particular policy, the very substantial research facilities of CFR are put to work to develop arguments, intellectual and emotional, to support the new policy, and to confound and discredit, intellectually and politically, any opposition. The most articulate theoreticians and ideologists prepare related articles, aided by the research, to sell the new policy and to make it appear inevitable and irresistible. By following the evolution of this propaganda in the most prestigious scholarly journal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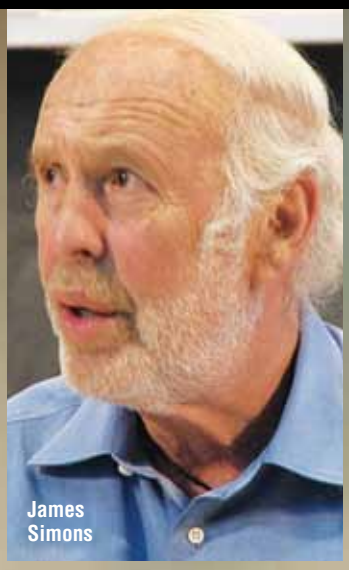
James Simons

Mark Zuckerberg

Jeffrey Katzenberg

> in the world, *Foreign Affairs*, anyone can determine years in advance what the future defense and foreign policies of the United States will be. If a certain proposition is repeated often enough in that journal, then the U.S. Administration in power — be it Republican or Democratic — begins to act as if that proposition or assumption were an established fact.

Admiral Ward, a former judge advocate general of the U.S. Navy and a CFR member from 1959-1977, became one of the organization's chief critics. According to Ward, the goal of the CFR is the "submergence of U.S. sovereignty and national independence into an all-powerful one-world government." He charged that "this lust to surrender the sovereignty and independence of the United States is pervasive throughout most of the membership." The CFR elite and their allied globalists in the RIIA, the Trilateral Commission, the Bilderberg Group, the Brookings Institution , the Aspen Institute, the Ford Foundation, and other internationalist centers, have for decades referred to their world government plans as the New World Order.

The roadblock of national sovereignty, and specifically the U.S. Constitution with its structural checks and balances, is standing in the way of this grand scheme. This is why, Admiral Ward noted, "In the entire CFR lexicon, there is no term of revulsion carrying a meaning so deep as 'America First.'"

Trying to Tame Trump

It was Goldwater's "America First" philosophy that caused the CFR establishment to unleash the hellish hordes of Mordor against him, and it is Trump's "America First" comments that have, likewise, sent the orchestrated waves of revulsion crashing upon him from the globalist chorus.

Let's briefly examine the very carefully choreographed outpouring of outrage from the Rockefeller Republicans and the Clinton Democrats. Although scripted to appear spontaneous and uncoordinated, the critically time-released statements by high-profile politicians and the stories and op-eds by their media allies are about as spontaneous as a Super Bowl halftime show.

One of the most recent anti-Trump hit pieces by the CFR's "Republocrats" came in the form of a letter to the *New York Times* (for nearly a century the CFR's prime propaganda transmission belt) on August 8, from, as the *Times* put it, "Fifty of the nation's most senior Republican national security officials."

The letter, signed by former officials of the National Security Council and the Departments of State, Defense, and Homeland Security, accuses Donald Trump of lacking the "character, values, and experience" to be president, and charge that he would "put at risk our country's national security and well-being."

"We know the personal qualities required of a President of the United States," the letter states, and continues: "None of us will vote for Donald Trump." The letter by ostensible Republicans reads like a rip-and-read press statement from Team Hillary, utilizing all the Clintonian buzzwords about Trump's "temperament" and "ignorance," and his "dangerous" and "reckless" tendencies. The list of signatories to the letter is a veritable Who's Who of Rockefeller Republicans from the past several GOP administrations. Among the prominent CFR members who signed on are John B. Bellinger III, Robert Blackwill, Eliot A. Cohen, Richard Fontaine, Jendayi Frazer, Aaron Friedberg, Brian Gunderson, Michael Hayden, Carla A. Hills, John Negroponte, Nicholas Rostow, Shirin R. Tahir-Kheli, William H. Taft IV, Dov Zakheim, Philip Zelikow, and Robert Zoellick.

Trump responded to the attack, charging that the letter's signers are "the ones the American people should look to for answers on why the world is a mess, and we thank them for coming forward so everyone in the country knows who to blame for making the world such a dangerous place." These supposedly important critics, he said, are "nothing more than the failed Washington elite looking to hold onto their power." It is difficult to dispute Trump on this key point, which is why the CFR-aligned media focus instead on trumped up stories, such as the "crying baby fiasco," and his supposed "Second Amendment threat" against Hillary.

Another member of the "failed Washington elite," Maine Senator Susan M. Collins (CFR), penned a similar anti-Trump letter for the *Washington Post* (another longtime CFR transmission belt) on the same day, August 8, entitled "Why I Cannot Support

Donald Trump." Senator Collins, who has an abysmal 40 percent rating on this magazine's Freedom Index, says in her letter that she is "a lifelong Republican." "But Donald Trump," she insists, "does not reflect historical Republican values nor the inclusive approach to governing that is critical to healing the divisions in our country." Apparently, in Collins' view, "historical Republican values" include supporting bigger government, more taxes, more debt, more regulation (except when it comes to auditing the unaccountable Federal Reserve, a common-sense proposal she opposes), more undeclared wars, and more surveillance-state measures, as well as support for the militant pro-abortion and LGBTQ agendas.

Donald Trump struck back at the CFR Republicans on August 8, noting they are the "failed Washington elite" who have made the world "a mess" and are now "looking to hold on to power."

Also on August 8, much of the CFR-aligned blogosphere and Big Media universe celebrated the announcement by Republican Evan McMullin (CFR) that he is entering the presidential race as an "independent" #NeverTrump candidate. McMullin, who recently left his job as the chief policy director for Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives, claims to be a conservative, but is more likely a neoconservative of the Susan Collins/Paul Ryan/John McCain/Mitch McConnell stripe. Besides being a CFR member, he is ex-CIA (favorite intel-disinformation apparat of the CFR), and ex-Goldman Sachs (favorite Wall Street firm of Hillary).

A couple of weeks earlier, in a July 24 column for the left-wing Daily Beast, liberal-left Democrat "journalist" Eleanor Clift (the veteran commentator for PBS and MSNBC) reported, with apparent glee, "Some of the GOP's best brains" are now going for Hillary. Among the supposed Republican brainiacs that are joining the Clinton camp, says Clift, are Robert Kagan (CFR), a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution and a co-founder of the all-war-all-the-time Project for the New American Century; Brent Scowcroft (CFR), an advisor to four GOP presidents; Henry Paulson, Jr. (CFR), former treasury secretary under President George W. Bush and former chairman and CEO of Goldman Sachs; Kori Schake (CFR), former George W. Bush National Security official; Max Boot, a CFR senior fellow and former advisor to John McCain, Mitt Romney, and Marco Rubio; retired Army Colonel Peter Mansoor (CFR), former top aide to General David Petraeus (CFR); and Larry Pressler (CFR), former U.S. senator for South Dakota.

It's easy to see why a "progressive" such as Eleanor Clift would consider these Rockefeller RINOs to be the GOP's "best brains," but most thinking Republicans with any constitutional conviction would say "good riddance," and would urge these longtime globalists to stay in the party of Bernie, Barack, and Hillary, where they belong. There are too many like Larry Pressler posing as "moderate Republicans" as long as it is politically expedient. But this is not the first time he has jumped ship: He also voted and campaigned for Obama in 2012.

Many more of the CFR Republican elite can be expected to make highly public defections in the coming days and weeks. Maybe not all the way over to an endorsement of Hillary, but certainly condemning Trump and warning voters of the grave "dangers" he would pose if he occupied the White House. Between now and November 8, we can be sure there will be coordinated waves of RINO Rockefeller Republicans attacking Trump and embracing Clinton, all in a scripted effort to cripple and defeat the Republican nominee.

The Team Hillary message is, "See, Trump is so toxic and unpresidential that even all these famous Republicans are fleeing him." That message will work — and is working — with ill-informed voters. For truly informed voters, however, the RINO exodus is a good thing to cheer, and one of the best endorsements for Donald Trump. Yes, from a solid, constitutionalist perspective, he has many faults, warts, and deficiencies. However, it should be clear from the unprecedented magnitude and ferocity of the attacks leveled against him that Trump represents an existential threat to the CFR insiders' grand schemes for a New World Order. And it should be equally clear that Hillary Clinton is viewed by these same globalists as the chosen one to further extend their subversive schemes. Whatever his faults, Trump is seen by the globalists as their adversary, because they see in him a nationalist, a patriot, who will stand athwart their schemes for global empire. Moreover, due to his independent wealth, he is uniquely positioned to challenge and monkey-wrench their schemes. And for these reasons, between now and election day, their attacks on him will be relentless and ever more vicious. ■

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Trump VP Pence:
Globalist Neocon or Solid Conservative?

Conservatives and many Trump supporters were dismayed when Donald Trump picked Mike Pence to be his GOP running mate. And they do have reason to be concerned.

AP Images

Looking for substance and staying power: Despite being painted as a social conservative by the press, Trump VP nominee Mike Pence has a mixed record at best, and quickly caved to homosexual extremists on religious freedom as Indiana governor.

by Alex Newman

When GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump named Indiana Governor Mike Pence as his running mate, Republicans and conservatives immediately appeared torn. Some critics of the selection blasted Pence as a globalist neocon who supports the Obama-backed Common Core scheme, sovereignty-destroying "free trade" regimes, unconstitutional wars, and other deeply unpopular policies, rather than the Constitution and liberty. Other opponents blasted Pence's surrender to extreme homosexual activists and corporate bullies last year in trampling religious liberty in Indiana. By contrast, the establishment media and some others claimed Pence is a relatively solid conservative whose pro-life credentials and reputed social conservatism would help unify the conservative movement behind the Trump 2016 campaign.

So what is the truth? Perhaps something in between. But there are definitely reasons for conservatives, constitutionalists, libertarians, populists, nationalists, and others in Trump's coalition to be very concerned.

Indeed, Pence's record, first as a member of Congress from Indiana for six terms, and later as governor of the state, is a mixed bag at best. In Congress, as measured on The New American magazine's Freedom Index, which scores lawmakers based on their fidelity to the U.S. Constitution they swear to uphold, Pence scored 62 percent. While better than most Democrats, the score is hardly impressive.

During his 12 years in the House of Representatives, Pence often voted to fund globalist and neocon programs that are not authorized in the Constitution — including supporting spending bills squandering ultimately trillions of taxpayer dollars and running up massive trillion-dollar deficits for largely unconstitutional purposes. Pence also voted reliably to fund the panoply of globalist organizations, including the United Nations, the Export-Import Bank, and more, that undermine U.S. sovereignty and prosperity. The PATRIOT Act, allowing unconstitutional spying on Americans, received his support, too. Incredibly, Pence even voted against an amendment that would have blocked the authorization of indefinite military detention of American citizens without trial. Why Pence thought Obama should be able to use the military to detain Americans without trial was not explained.

On matters of war, Pence has also sided with establishment globalists and neocons, rather than the Constitution. For instance, the then-congressman voted to unconstitutionally surrender the power of Congress to declare war on more than one occasion. First, he supported giving then-President George W. Bush authority to wage an undeclared war against Iraq if and when the president decided to do so — a war that Trump has opposed. Pence even voted against an amendment to defund Obama's devastating and flatly illegal war against Libya, in which Obama relied on a UN resolution instead of a congressional declaration of war. As congressmen in both parties explained at the time, Obama should have been impeached for that act alone.

Beyond war, Pence has taken positions at odds with crucial Trump issues animating his campaign. Even on illegal immigration and amnesty, Pence has come under fire. A decade ago, when the Bush-backed amnesty schemes were being considered in Congress to legalize illegal immigrants, Pence responded with a proposal that would have allegedly led to increased border enforcement and no amnesty. Key opponents of amnesty, though, including Trump supporter and conservative leader Phyllis Schlafly, criticized the plan. Pat Buchanan lambasted Pence's proposal as "stealth amnesty."

More recently, Pence slammed Trump's popular proposal to temporarily ban Islamic immigration as "offensive and unconstitutional" — a proposal that polls show is supported by most Americans and the overwhelming majority of Republicans. It was not immediately clear how

Key opponents of amnesty, though, including Trump supporter and conservative leader Phyllis Schlafly, criticized the plan. Pat Buchanan lambasted Pence's proposal as "stealth amnesty."

many more Muslims Pence would like to see immigrating to America, whether he thinks taxpayers should foot the bill for the immigration, or how (or if) he thinks they should be vetted by authorities for security and health concerns. However, Pence did attempt, albeit half-heartedly, to block the joint UN-Obama administration importation of "Syrian refugees" to be resettled in Indiana at taxpayer expense.

On national sovereignty-destroying "free trade" schemes such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the North American Free Trade Agreement, Pence has been a major cheerleader of globalism. "The time has come for all of us to urge the swift adoption of the Trans Pacific Partnership," Pence declared on Twitter two years ago. By contrast, Trump has strongly opposed the globalist deals, owing to the economic havoc they have produced, and owing to the surrender of national independence to transnational bureaucracies they bring about. Indeed, opposition to the pseudo-"free trade" regimes is a central plank of Trump's campaign and has earned him massive support from conservatives and liberals — so much so that even globalist Democrat Hillary Clinton, who once praised the scheme as "the gold standard in trade agreements," now claims to oppose it.

Infowars, which has featured Trump as a guest on its popular and influential *Alex Jones Show*, compiled a massive list of pro-globalist "free trade" schemes Pence voted to support while in Congress.

Perhaps most controversial among recent actions by Pence was his shameful surrender on religious liberty — a crucial American value — during his tenure as Indiana governor. Last year, as homosexual and LGBT extremists were working to bulldoze the First Amendment and force Americans to affirm homosexual "marriage" at government gunpoint, Republicans in Indiana passed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. The purpose was to protect Christians and others from being coerced into participating in sinful celebrations of faux "marriage" by, for example, having to bake homosexual-themed cakes or produce flower arrangements that affirm homosexual "weddings."

At first, Pence was supportive of the effort to protect religious liberty in the face of an unconstitutional and fanatical assault against marriage and its supporters by extremists on the Supreme Court, who invented a non-existent "constitutional right" to homosexual "marriage." "We are not going to change this law," Pence declared about the effort. However, as homosexual extremists and their allied bullies among Big Business started shrieking and threatening, Pence quickly caved.

On April 2, just one week after the bill was signed into law, Pence signed another bill essentially reversing the religious freedom protections in the act and purporting to force business owners to participate in the celebration of homosexuality at government gunpoint. Religious freedom in Indiana was worse off afterward than when the effort to protect it began.

Before that, Pence helped oversee and facilitate a major deception that will do long-lasting damage to Hoosier children. Pence and Indiana were among the first states to try to dupe citizens by replacing Common Core with a re-named and re-branded version of the Obama administration-backed, dumbed-down national "education" standards. Despite the deceptive celebrations and statements by Pence, the "new" Indiana standards are almost indistinguishable from the globalist-designed Common Core. According to experts, some 90 percent of Common Core was retained, allowing Indiana to continue receiving bribes from the Obama administration dispensed to states that surrendered control over education.

However, Pence has not been all bad news for conservatives. He is reported to be a Christian who has stood for protecting unborn children from tax-funded abortion. He also stood up to the unconstitutional bankster bailout while in Congress, tried to limit federal spending to one-fifth of GDP, and, at least while in Congress, stood against the extreme homosexual agenda pushed by Obama and an increasingly radicalized Supreme Court. Finally, Pence also voted in favor of properly auditing the Federal Reserve.

Even though Trump supporters say Pence has a lot of work to do if he hopes to help Trump, at this point, with the ultra-unpopular Hillary Clinton as the alternative, Trump was likely to do well and keep his voters no matter whom he selected as his VP, short of Satan, perhaps, or Obama. ■

AP Images

On the same side? Mike Pence has taken many pro-establishment positions at odds with Trump, including on key issues such as "free trade" regimes and immigration, but Pence has also pushed anti-establishment ideas, such as sound money.

AP Images

Posturing for position: As governor of Virginia, Kaine meandered from the hard-left to the middle-left in what appears to be an effort to make himself attractive as a "moderate" candidate.

Raising Kaine

While Tim Kaine, Hillary Clinton's chosen running mate, professes to be a traditional Catholic, liberals need have no fear that he will push Christian morality should Hillary win.

by C. Mitchell Shaw

As the Clinton/Kaine ticket gets under way, much is known of Hillary Clinton on the national scene: Her history as former First Lady, former senator, and former secretary of state — and the scandals which accompanied each of those positions — has been well reported and is well known, if not well accepted. Tim Kaine, on the other hand, is another matter. His political career has been confined to Virginia and so — with rare exception — has his media coverage. Who is Tim Kaine?

Michael Timothy Kaine's political career began in the 1980s at Harvard when he met, courted, and eventually married Anne Holton, the daughter of Linwood Holton, who served as governor of Virginia from 1970 to 1974. After they were married, they settled in Richmond, Virginia, where they both practiced law. Kaine also taught law at the prestigious — and liberal — University of Richmond School of Law. In 1994, he was elected to the Richmond city council. Four years later, he was elected by the council as mayor of Richmond, and served until 2001.

It was during his time as mayor that the "moderate" Democrat first encountered any real controversy. After the anti-gun Million Mom March in Washington, D.C., in May 2000 — which, of course, had nowhere *near* a million moms marching — Kaine was called on the carpet for using $6,000 in taxpayer funds to pay for buses to carry marchers from Richmond to the march. In the wake of the controversy, he raised the funds to reimburse the city. It does say something about the man, though, that he lacked a moral check on using taxpayer money to pay for the advancement of his own political agenda.

The kerfuffle was short-lived, and Kaine was elected lieutenant governor of Virginia in 2002 under Governor Mark Warner. Four years later, he was elected governor.

As a state, Virginia has perhaps two political oddities that stand out — one more distinct than the other. The first (and perhaps more common) is a political schizophrenia that compels residents of the Old Dominion to elect a majority of one party to the state legislature and the candidate from the other party to the office of governor. The second (which is unique to Virginia) is that governors are limited to a single term. The combination of these two oddities leads to governors who see the office not as a place to build and grow while looking out for the best interests of Virginia, but as a steppingstone to run for either president or Congress. Kaine was no exception to this rule. As governor, it was clear he was posturing for some higher federal office. He was reported to be on Obama's short list as a VP running mate, but was edged out by Joe Biden.

During his time in the governor's mansion, Kaine continued to stoke controversy. He meandered from the hard-left to the middle-left in what appears to be an effort to make himself attractive as a "moderate."

In his delivery of the Democratic response to the 2006 State of the Union address, Kaine was quick to criticize President George W. Bush's handling of the war in Iraq, correctly pointing out that Bush had misled Americans about whether Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction. Of course, Kaine is now standing up beside a candidate who has misled Americans about her arming of Syrian rebels and facilitating the growth of ISIS, not to mention her e-mail scandal.

As governor, Kaine established the Climate Change Commission to promote the fallacy of "global warming," yet also supported a project for a coal-fired power plant in the state against the wishes of the environmental lobby. By playing both sides against the middle, he was cast as a champion of both business and the environment.

He banned — by executive order — smoking in government buildings in Virginia and later signed into law a bill banning smoking in most restaurants and bars in the state, but resisted a bill passed by the mostly Republican state legislature to require girls to receive the HPV vaccine before they could be admitted to high school. One is left to wonder whether his resistance to the bill forcing girls to receive a vaccine against a sexually transmitted disease would have

On a range of bills dealing with everything from national security to federal involvement in housing to the environment to immigration to taxes to forcing employers to fund contraception, Kaine has voted the exact opposite of the Constitution *99 percent of the time.*

been the same if it had been passed by a Democrat-controlled legislature.

When his proposed tax increases of $4 billion ran into a wall with the Republican-controlled legislature, he cut spending on things such as highway rest areas, and managed to keep Virginia running. He was celebrated for his wise handling of the financial "crisis," without much mention in the mainstream media of the fact that he should have cut spending without even trying to increase taxes. In the end, Virginia fared very well with the spending cuts. *Forbes* ranked Virginia number one in its "Best States For Business" three of Kaine's four years in office. A large part of the credit for that goes to his failed attempt to raise taxes. In other words, it's not what Kaine *did for* Virginia's businesses; it's what he was *prevented from doing* that helped the state through a rough economic period.

Of course, he took the credit, all the while courting greener political pastures. And it worked.

During his last year as governor, Kaine was elected chairman of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) — a position he held until 2011, when he recommended Debbie Wasserman Schultz to succeed him. During his time in that position, he cemented himself as a political force to be reckoned with and — when he resigned the chair — announced he would run for the Senate seat that Democratic Senator Jim Webb would leave vacant upon retiring.

In 2013, when he was sworn in as the new Virginia senator, it became apparent how small a world Virginia politics really is: His Virginian colleague in the Senate was none other than his old friend Mark Warner, under whom he had served as lieutenant governor. Together, they have used Virginia's voting power in the Senate to move the United States further to the left.

AP Images

Politics, power, and party over principle: Senator Kaine has the lowest score in the Freedom Index published by The New American, which checks the constitutionality of congressmen's votes. His cumulative score for his tenure in the Senate is a paltry one percent.

In fact, Tim Kaine has the lowest score in the Freedom Index published by The New American. His cumulative score for his tenure in the Senate is a paltry *one percent.* The one vote in which he aligned himself with the Constitution — the anomaly — was on January 28, 2015 when he voted against an amendment to remove exemptions for fracking and natural gas storage from regulation under the Safe Drinking Water Act. This one correct vote is conspicuous by its loneliness.

On a range of bills dealing with everything from national security to federal involvement in housing to the environment to immigration to taxes to forcing employers to fund contraception, Kaine has voted the exact opposite of the Constitution *99 percent of the time.*

As Kaine has continued to climb the political ladder, he has also continued to move to further and further to the left and progress in his abandonment of whatever principles he may have ever had. He appears to have made some sort of Faustian deal for political power: He has violated his oath of office wherein he swore before God that he would uphold the Constitution, and he has likewise abandoned his faith, though he claims otherwise.

Kaine describes himself as a "faithful" and "traditional Catholic," even while supporting same-sex "marriage" and abortion. This dichotomy has caused more than one Catholic clergyman to publicly call Kaine out as an example of a *bad* Catholic. Fr. Thomas Petri, a Catholic priest in Washington, D.C., tweeted, "Senator @timkaine: Do us both a favor. Don't show up in my communion line. I take Canon 915 seriously. It'd be embarrassing for you & for me." Canon 915 forbids priests from administering Holy Communion to those who are excommunicated or obstinately persevere in grave sin.

Kaine, though, is obstinate — even recalcitrant — in his position. He will not abide by either his oath or his religion. Oaths and religion often stand or fall together, since they both deal with God and man's duty before Him. Can such a man be trusted to be vice president under Hillary Clinton? Of course, any man who valued either his oath or his religion would not likely be standing up beside Hillary Clinton in the first place, so the question answers itself. ■

Libertarian Party Candidates

The Libertarian Party usually stakes out positions advocating reduced government spending and minimized moral edicts. This year's presidential duo is doing the same.

AP Images

Ready for the race: Newly nominated Libertarian Party presidential candidate Gary Johnson (right) and vice-presidential candidate William Weld shortly after their nomination in Orlando. Both men are seasoned politicians and former Republican governors.

by Charles Scaliger

Most election years, so-called third-party candidates merit scarcely a condescending nod from the establishment media.

This isn't one of those years. Thanks to the complexion of the two major-party tickets, once-ignored third-party candidates are drawing the interest of unusually large numbers of Americans tired of voting for the lesser of two evils.

One candidate who is already a household name is former New Mexico governor Gary Johnson, who is the Libertarian Party's candidate for president. His vice-presidential running mate, former Massachusetts governor William Weld, is also something of a political heavyweight.

Gary Johnson is no stranger to the political stage, having first run successfully for governor of New Mexico in 1994. Johnson, who had built a multimillion-dollar construction firm that was one of New Mexico's largest, was advised by Republican Party leaders to run for the state legislature. The ambitious Johnson ran for governor instead, and won election as a Republican in a state where registered Democrats held a three-to-one advantage at the polls.

From the beginning of his tenure as governor, Johnson pursued policies that often made his fellow Republicans as uncomfortable as the Democrats. Johnson was (and remains) opposed to the federal war on drugs, for example (calling it an "expensive bust"), and worked tirelessly for legalizing marijuana and decriminalizing other drugs. As governor, his veto pen was active, vetoing 750 bills during his two terms in office — more than all of New Mexico's previous governors combined. Roughly one-third of the bills vetoed by Johnson were sponsored by his fellow Republicans, and only two were ever overridden. His policies made him wildly popular with New Mexicans. Johnson cut taxes and spending, and fulfilled a campaign pledge to cut the annual rate of government spending increase in New Mexico, which at the time of his election was running about 10 percent a year. He proposed a range of tax cuts in his first budget, and one of them — a gas tax cut — actually passed the legislature. He also fired 1,200 state employees.

At the same time, Johnson increased state spending on education and roads. Yet overall, his record speaks for itself: By the time his second and final term as New Mexico governor ended, the state was running a billion-dollar surplus — but with a better road system and two new prisons into the balance.

Because of state-mandated term limits, Johnson was prohibited from running for a third term as New Mexico's governor. Four years later, Johnson threw his hat in the presidential ring, becoming the Libertarian Party's presidential candidate for the first time. His campaign received just under one percent of the total popular vote, for a total of more than 1,200,000 votes nationwide.

Former Republican William Weld, Johnson's running mate, defied steep odds in 1990 when he ran to replace retiring Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis. The former U.S. attorney for the state of Massachusetts defeated Democratic candidate and Boston University president John Silber by a narrow margin, but won reelection in 1994 with 71 percent of the vote, the largest gubernatorial electoral margin in Massachusetts history. Weld's rather liberal views endeared him to the Massachusetts voting public. Weld broke ranks with much of the rest of the GOP in supporting the legalization of marijuana, same-sex "marriage," abortion "rights," and a wide range of gun control measures (Weld has since supposedly disavowed his gun control proposals).

Weld's political career foundered, however, when he decided to resign the governorship in 1997 to devote all his energy to his nomination by President Bill Clinton as ambassador to Mexico. But then-Senate Foreign Relations Chairman Jesse Helms steadfastly refused to give the Weld nomination a Senate hearing. Disappointed, Weld finally withdrew his name from consideration and returned to practicing law. He has never been far from the corridors of political

Johnson was (and remains) opposed to the federal war on drugs, for example (calling it an "expensive bust"), and worked tirelessly for legalizing marijuana and decriminalizing other drugs.

power, however, as his membership in the Council on Foreign Relations attests.

On January 6, 2016, Gary Johnson announced his second campaign for the president of the United States, and on May 29 he became the Libertarian Party's presidential candidate for the second straight time, with Weld his running mate completing the first all-governor presidential ticket for any party since 1948. His platform is a mixture of "fiscally conservative" and "socially tolerant" positions, in Johnson's own words.

Johnson continues to be a strong advocate for the legalization of marijuana, believing that "legalizing and regulating marijuana will save lives and make our communities safer by eliminating crime and creating an industry that can legitimately participate in America's economy." He also continues to believe that abortion, while morally objectionable, should be a woman's personal choice. According to his campaign's website:

> Gary Johnson believes in the sanctity of the life of the unborn.... However, Gov. Johnson recognizes that the right of a woman to choose is the law of the land, and has been for several decades. That right must be respected and despite his personal aversion to abortion, he believes that such a very personal and individual decision is best left to women and families, not the government. He feels that each woman must be allowed to make decisions about her own health and well-being.

Regarding another combustible social issue, so-called same-sex "marriage," both Johnson and Weld are strong supporters of "marriage equality." Weld, the Johnson-Weld campaign website proudly notes, "actually appointed the judge who wrote the opinion that established marriage equality as a matter of constitutional right."

Man for low taxes and amoral society: Libertarian presidential candidate Gary Johnson speaks to supporters and delegates at the Libertarian Party Convention in Orlando. Johnson is the Libertarian Party's presidential nominee for the second straight electoral cycle.

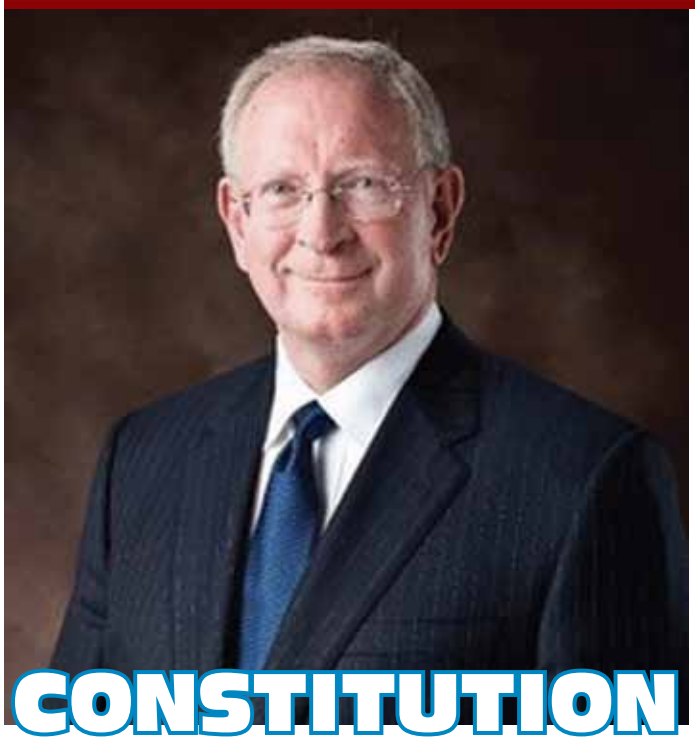
And Johnson has begun supporting the Black Lives Matter movement, telling a young protester recently, "We've all had our heads in the sand and let's wake up. Discrimination does exist, has existed, and for me personally, um, slap, slap, wake up."

In keeping with his tax-cutting pedigree, Johnson deplores our "tax code that is more than 70,000 pages long, enforced by a government agency with almost 100,000 employees … a nightmare for the average American." In fine fiscally conservative form, the Johnson-Weld ticket pledges "[to eliminate] special interest tax loopholes, to get rid of the double-taxation on small businesses, and ultimately, the replacement of all income and payroll taxes with a single consumption tax that determines your tax burden by how much you spend, not how much you earn."

Along with tax cuts, Johnson and Weld promise to cut government spending massively and to submit balanced budgets to Congress. In fact, Johnson promises that his first major act as president will be to submit a balanced budget with "no gimmicks, no imaginary cuts in the distant future," and "real reductions to bring spending in line with revenues, without tax increases."

On foreign policy, Johnson and Weld declare: "No Nation Building. No Policing the World. More Security Here at Home." Echoing Ron Paul's concerns, Johnson and Weld dare to question the decades-long policy of blanket American interventionism:

> Looking back over the past couple of decades, it is difficult to see how the wars we have waged, the interventions we have conducted, the lives sacrificed, and the trillions of tax dollars we have spent on the other side of the globe have made us safer. If anything, our meddling in the affairs of other nations has made us less safe.
>
> Many senior military and foreign policy analysts have concluded that the rise of ISIS can actually be traced back to instability created by our meddling in the affairs of others. Overall, the Johnson-Weld ticket, with its mixture of fiscal restraint and social latitudinarianism, is in fairly close alignment with Libertarian platforms past. Time will tell how well it plays in Peoria. ■



Convictions burned in him: Darrell Castle, the Constitution Party's presidential candidate, learned during duty in the Vietnam War that ignoring the U.S. Constitution was a recipe for injustice and countrywide failure.

CONSTITUTION PARTY CANDIDATES

The Constitution Party bases its positions on morals, the Constitution, and increased opportunities for all Americans.

by Charles Scaliger

The Constitution Party, as its name suggests, is the party of strict constitutionalism and limited government. Every four years, the party's ticket offers up candidates of personal integrity and strong constitutionalist convictions, and this year is no exception. While they may not (yet!) be household names, the Constitution Party's presidential nominee, Darrell Castle, and his vice-presidential running mate, Scott Bradley, offer a palatable alternative for voters dismayed at the lack of both character and convictions among the major-party tickets.

Castle, a soft-spoken Tennessee lawyer who currently lives in Germantown, earned a double degree in history and political science from East Tennessee State University in 1970. While in college, Castle enrolled in ROTC and received training in Marine Corps platoon leadership in Quantico, Virginia. After graduation, Castle was commissioned as a Second lieutenant in the Marine Corps. He eventually served a 13-month tour of duty in the Far East, including Vietnam. His experience in the Vietnam War was a transformative one; according to the thumbnail biography on his campaign website:

> War is a life-changing event and Darrell's experiences during those years contributed to his strong belief that war should not be entered into capriciously; and, that the decision to go to war must be made according to constitutional provisions. He firmly believes in upholding Article I Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution, which makes it clear that only Congress can declare war, and that those powers are not granted to the president. He left the Marine Corps a very different person than when he went in.

After his military service concluded, Castle enrolled in the law school at Memphis State, where he earned his J.D. in 1979. It was also there that he met and married Joan Weil, to whom he has been happily married ever since. He opened his own law practice in Memphis in 1984, which turned into Darrell Castle and Associates, with firms in Milwaukee, Detroit, and Kansas City.

Even as his law practice flourished, Castle became more and more concerned over the lack of understanding of the Constitution and the principles of limited government on the part of elected officials and their electorates alike. He became active in the Constitution Party, serving in various leadership capacities over the years, including two terms as party state chairman for Tennessee and three terms as vice chairman of the Constitution Party's national committee.

In 2008, Castle became the Constitution Party's vice-presidential candidate, alongside presidential running mate Chuck Baldwin. The Baldwin-Castle ticket finished with just under 200,000 votes nationwide, good enough for a fifth-place finish, just ahead of the Green Party's Cynthia McKinney, but well behind the Republican, Democrat, and Libertarian tickets, as well as independent Ralph Nader.

Scott Bradley, Castle's running mate, has had several careers, including as an administrator at Utah State University and an executive at AT&T. A tireless promoter of constitutional government, Bradley is a well-known patriot in his home state of Utah, for his radio show dedicated to constitutional principles, his non-profit educational organization the Constitution Commemoration Foundation, and his authorship of *To Preserve the Nation*, a book and DVD/lecture series. Bradley and his wife, Tamara, have five children and 11 grandchildren.

The Castle-Bradley 2016 platform is built around a five-point program: adherence to the Constitution, withdrawal from the United Nations, ending the Federal Reserve, rejection of the radical environmentalist program embodied in Agenda 21, and maintenance of the Constitution Party's traditional pro-life stance. Writes Castle of the U.S. Constitution:

> The Constitution is the charter of liberty for the American Republic. It is much more than just a piece of paper or just a legal document. It is evidence of the grand design the founders left us and it secures the rights that God granted to us.
>
> In the Declaration of Independence Mr. Jefferson told us

The Castle-Bradley 2016 platform promotes adherence to the Constitution, withdrawal from the United Nations, ending the Federal Reserve, rejection of the radical environmentalist program embodied in Agenda 21, and maintenance of the Constitution Party's traditional pro-life stance.

> that we are endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights and to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men. That is the purpose of government and the reason why the Constitution was and is necessary.
>
> Adherence to the Constitution brings liberty and ignoring and denigrating it brings tyranny.

Regarding the United Nations and our continued membership in it, Castle and Bradley believe that the international organization and its founding principles are fundamentally incompatible with those of the United States:

> The ideas of America are not compatible with membership in the United Nations (U.N.). The U.N. is world headquarters for the church of unbelieving humanism. The fundamental doctrine of the U.N. is that the world should be a global collective, redistributing shares of material prosperity to every human on earth. That is a religious and not a political idea. Faith in God is replaced by faith in Humanity....
>
> The very existence of the U.N. is an affront to liberty and human dignity. Many of the inherent rights in the US Constitution are superseded by the United Nations Charter, including the right of self-defense. We must free ourselves from the notion that the U.N. is vital to U.S. interests. It is not.

Castle and Bradley also propose to repeal the Federal Reserve Act, effectively ending the century-old system of tampering with interest rates and the money supply to serve the interests of the wealthy and well-connected at the expense of everyone else. "I would let the American people know that they are now free to use whatever currency they want," writes Castle. "The dollar would again be exchangeable for a fixed quantity of gold and the U.S. Treasury would now accept any major currency ... in payment of taxes."

Castle also intends to withdraw the United States from "international, sovereignty-destroying legislation," such as the Agenda 21 protocol, which for two decades has been insinuating itself into federal and state legislatures, encouraging and at times requiring reforms that will bring U.S. laws into conformity with the international radical environmentalist agenda.

Regarding the right to life, Castle proposes to veto any and all federal spending in support of organizations such as Planned Parenthood, and to "recommend to Congress, and work to convince Congress, to take away the Supreme Court's jurisdiction over such matters." What this means in practical terms is to try to get Congress to pass legislation limiting the Supreme Court's appellate jurisdiction (and, by implication, that of all federal courts inferior to it) over matters concerning abortion, pursuant to the little-known authority granted to Congress in the U.S. Constitution, Article 3, Section 2. The relevant clause states, in part, that "in all the other Cases [i.e., other than those in which the Supreme Court has original jurisdiction] before mentioned, the supreme Court shall have *appellate Jurisdiction*, both as to Law and Fact, *with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make*." (Emphasis added.) This powerful check against judicial tyranny is seldom mentioned in the media, because the Supreme Court has been such a reliable force for the promotion of leftist agenda items such as abortion and same-sex "marriage." Using its given power, Congress would have only to pass legislation denying the Supreme Court appellate jurisdiction over Second Amendment-related cases — or any other matter on which their judgment might be deemed suspect — for a radicalized Supreme Court to be neutralized. Of all presidential candidates, Darrell Castle alone seems to be aware of this.

More in a life's work: Scott Bradley is not only the vice-presidential nominee for the Constitution Party, he has made a lecture series about the U.S. Constitution and what it means.

The Castle-Bradley platform is brief. After all, most federal programs and initiatives that polarize the electorate, from minimum wage laws to Social Security, are patently unconstitutional. With the Constitution as their electoral standard, Castle and Bradley need only to point out their illegitimacy.

In fine, Castle and Bradley are the only ticket that consistently upholds both the Constitution and certain traditional moral positions, such as the right to life. Anyone for whom the Constitution and divine law are the ultimate standards of political conduct should give their candidacy careful consideration. ■

AP Images

Redistributionist: Green Party presidential nominee Dr. Jill Stein is a physician and longtime political and environmental activist. In 2012, as the Green Party presidential nominee, she broke the record for the most votes received by a female presidential candidate.

GREEN PARTY CANDIDATES

Jill Stein & Ajamu Baraka

For voters who want abject socialism – with government laws dictating public projects, work and cultural controls, and anything deemed "environmental" – the Green Party is for you.

by Christian Gomez

Between August 4 to August 7, 2016, the Green Party held its presidential nominating convention at the University of Houston, in which Jill Stein and Ajamu Baraka were elected the Green Party's presidential and vice-presidential nominees, respectively.

Officially recognized by the Federal Election Commission as a national political party in 1991, the Green Party of the United States (GPUS), or Greens as they are sometimes called, is the largest left-wing third party in the United States. According to its 2016 platform, the Green Party calls for building an "economy based on large-scale green public works, municipalization, and workplace and community democracy." The platform continues:

> Some call this decentralized system ecological socialism, communalism, or the cooperative commonwealth, but whatever the terminology, we believe it will help end labor exploitation, environmental exploitation, and racial, gender, and wealth inequality and bring about economic and social justice due to the positive effects of democratic decision making.

As a central tenet of her campaign platform, Stein calls for the creation of a "Green New Deal." In an interview with the *Socialist Worker* newspaper, Stein explained that her plan "assures the right to a job, health care and education." "It will create 20 million living wage jobs that replace our deadly carbon economy with a just, green economy — on an emergency basis," she said. "We're calling for 100 percent clean renewable energy by 2030."

Stein's anti-capitalist "ecological socialism" has earned her presidential campaign the endorsement of the International Socialist Organization, a Marxist-Leninist-Trotskyite organization and publisher of the *Socialist Worker*. "The International Socialist Organization, publisher of this website, has decided to endorse and support Stein's campaign for president as an independent left alternative in the 2016 election," read the endorsement on SocialistWorker.org.

Born in Chicago and raised in Highland Park, Illinois, Dr. Jill Stein is a physician and longtime political and environmental activist with the GPUS. According to her campaign website, Stein "graduated magna cum laude from Harvard College in 1973, and from Harvard Medical School in 1979." She unsuccessfully ran for governor of Massachusetts as the nominee of the Green-Rainbow Party, the Massachusetts affiliate of the national Green Party. Stein also ran unsuccessfully for the House of Representatives in 2004, and for Massachusetts secretary of the commonwealth in 2006, and was the Green Party nominee for U.S. president in 2012.

Despite her loss in the 2012 presidential election, coming in fourth place with 469,628 votes (0.36 percent of the national vote), Stein holds the record for the most votes won by a female presidential candidate in a general election. However, Hillary Clinton, unless forced out of the race, is likely to break this record in November.

Endorsing the Black Lives Matter movement, Stein selected and the Greens nominated radical Black Nationalist and human rights activist Ajamu Baraka as the Green Party vice-presidential nominee.

Also born in Chicago, Baraka served as the founding executive director of the US Human Rights Network, a self-described

Stein explained that her plan "assures the right to a job, health care and education." "It will create 20 million living wage jobs that replace our deadly carbon economy with a just, green economy — on an emergency basis," she said.

"national network of organizations and individuals working to strengthen a human rights movement and culture within the United States," from 2004 to 2011.

However, Baraka's ideological roots can be traced to his early involvement with the Black Liberation movement, which was a militant Marxist-Leninist movement advocating for the "self-determination" of African-Americans in the United States and the overthrow of capitalism, during the 1960s, '70s, and early '80s. Baraka was supportive of the anti-apartheid movement that resulted in the joint African National Congress and South African Communist Party takeover of South Africa, and was also an active participant in the Central American solidarity struggles, which were supportive of many of the Marxist-Leninist regimes in Central America, such as Daniel Ortega's Soviet and Cuban-backed Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

Baraka is currently an associate fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies (IPS), a Marxist think-tank in Washington, D.C. With broad support from the far Left, disenfranchised Democrats, Bernie Sanders supporters, and revolutionary socialists, the Stein-Baraka ticket seeks to weaken and undermine the United States. The 2016 GPUS platform that both Stein and Baraka are running on calls for the total abolition of nuclear weapons while simultaneously opposing the creation of any ballistic missile defense system to defend the United States against the hypothetical use of such weapons mounted on an ICBM (intercontinental ballistic missile).

While the concept of abolishing nuclear weapons may be noble, the knowledge for creating these weapons and their ballistic missile delivery systems already exists and cannot be undone, thus the abolition of such weapons without creating any deterrent or form of protection against their future usage is an invitation for disaster at the expense of the American people's safety. This is exactly what Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev proposed to President Ronald Reagan during their summit meeting at Reykjavik, Iceland, in 1987, which Reagan firmly opposed. Further radical aspects of the 2016 GPUS platform state:

• "Reverse our withdrawal from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and honor its stipulations."

• "End the research, testing and stockpiling of all nuclear weapons of any size."

• "Dismantle all nuclear warheads from their missiles."

The Greens also advocate for total U.S. submission to the United Nations, including the placement of U.S. troops under foreign UN command. "The U.S. is obligated to render military assistance or service *under U.N. command* to enforce U.N. Security Council resolutions," the GPUS platform states. (Emphasis added.)

Radical runner: Green Party vice-presidential nominee Ajamu Baraka is a human-rights activist and radical Black Nationalist, whose affiliations are closely aligned with Marxism-Leninism.

Stein is also critical of both President Obama's policies and the Democratic Party, which she refers to as a "corporate party." In her interview with the *Socialist Worker*, Stein distinguished herself from President Obama, outlining her opposition to his policies:

> Obama basically followed George W. Bush's agenda. He bailed out the banks far more than Bush ever did. He followed up Bill Clinton's NAFTA with the Trans-Pacific Partnership. He continued Bush's wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and expanded them with catastrophic regime change in Libya and proliferating drone wars in Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia.

Stein succinctly added, "Obama basically outdid Bush on every count. So the result of voting for lesser evil? More evil." Dr. Cornel West, professor of philosophy and Christian practice at Union Theological Seminary and a political Marxist, previously endorsed Bernie Sanders in the Democratic Party but has since endorsed Jill Stein. During a recent interview on Democracy Now!, West referred to Hillary Clinton as a "neoliberal disaster," further describing her as a "hawk" and a "militarist" for her support of regime change and foreign wars abroad, naming Libya and Iraq as examples.

In light of the Democratic National Committee e-mail scandals, which revealed collusion between the Democratic Party and the Clinton campaign in order to torpedo Sanders, it will be interesting to see whether the millions of loyal Sanders supporters will either hold their noses and vote for Hillary or continue their socialist revolution by voting for the Stein-Baraka Green Party ticket. Far from being a constitutionalist, Jill Stein and the Green Party are the principled progressive and socialist alternative to Hillary Clinton and the Democratic Party. ■

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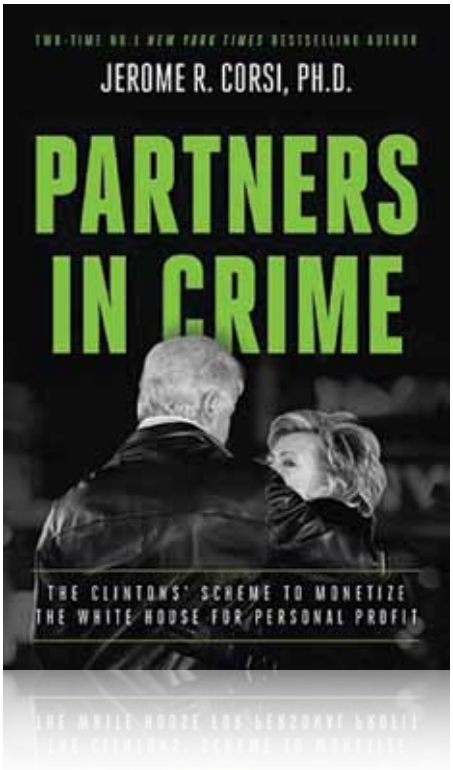
BRING On the BRIBES

The book *Partners in Crime* presents some of the enormous amount of evidence that the Clintons have taken bribes in order to buy the direction of U.S. policy.



by Alex Newman

***Partners in Crime: The Clintons' Scheme to Monetize the White House for Personal Profit*,** by Dr. Jerome R. Corsi, Washington, D.C.: WND Books, 2016, 320 pages, hardcover.

By now, almost everybody, even Clinton supporters, realizes that the prominent political couple is a shady duo. But the reality is much, much worse than that. The Clinton family and its scandal-plagued "foundation" are basically a gigantic criminal enterprise through which the Clintons and their cronies enrich themselves, sell political favors, and sell out America — all while ripping off taxpayers in the United States and around the world. If participants in this "vast criminal conspiracy" are not brought to justice, the Clintons intend to expand their criminal operation and run it from the White House, putting all Americans at risk. So justice must be served — and it can be.

Those are the conclusions of the devastating new book by investigative journalist Dr. Jerome Corsi, *Partners in Crime: The Clintons' Scheme to Monetize the White House for Personal Profit*. The book is neatly divided into 10 chapters, most of which focus in on one particular Clinton scam or fraud — at least the ones that occurred after reputed sexual predator Bill Clinton, who has apparently been enjoying himself with his wealthy fellow perverts at "Orgy Island" in recent years, left the White House. Those include the "Canada scam," the "HIV/AIDS Scam," the "State Department Scam," the "Haiti Scam," the "India Scam," and the most recent scam, the "Hillary for President 2016 Scam."

In each of these explosive chapters is more than enough evidence — much of it taken from "mainstream media" sources that have been extremely pro-Clinton — to convince even the most skeptical reader that the next stop for the Clinton crime family needs to be behind bars rather than at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Taken together, though, it becomes clear that the corruption of the Clintons goes beyond even what Americans would consider extreme for dictators in Banana Republics. It is enough to make one's head spin. Basically, in broad daylight, the Clintons have been scamming humanity out of millions of dollars, fleecing taxpayers, creating a huge "slush fund for grifters," and putting their countrymen at risk in the process — all while using the cover of "charity" and pushing an extreme left-wing, internationalist ideology.

"The Clintons have advanced a criminal scheme since leaving the White House in 2000 that has enabled them to amass hundreds of millions of dollars in personal net worth, while building a $2 billion empire in the Clinton Foundation and raising an additional $1 billion to fund their political campaigns," Corsi says. "The victims are countless thousands of honest people who contributed their hard-earned money to what they thought were philanthropic causes, while the Clintons used the Clinton Foundation to exploit for their personal profit impoverished millions in the United States and around the world, victims of earthquakes in India and Haiti, and sufferers of HIV/AIDS in the Third World." In all, the Clintons appear to have made close to one-quarter of a billion dollars on "speaking" fees, "consulting" jobs, and book deals — and that is just what is known publicly.

Corsi's book meticulously documents how the Clinton family has been diverting foundation money — much of it extracted from taxpayers around the world — to subsidize and enable their luxurious billionaire lifestyle of private jets, limos, celebrities, and five-star resorts. He calls the foundation a "massive criminal fraud" that serves as a "private piggy bank for Clinton family members and their friends." Specifically, Corsi outlines numerous instances of a crime known as "inurment," where "charitable funds" are diverted to benefit either the Clintons themselves, or their top associates, such as Doug Band, Ira Magaziner, Cheryl Mills, and Huma Abedin.

There are so many examples of such schemes, it is hard to keep track of them all. And the evidence in the book likely only scratches the surface, with the Clintons having used shady tactics such as shell corporations in Delaware and "pass-through"

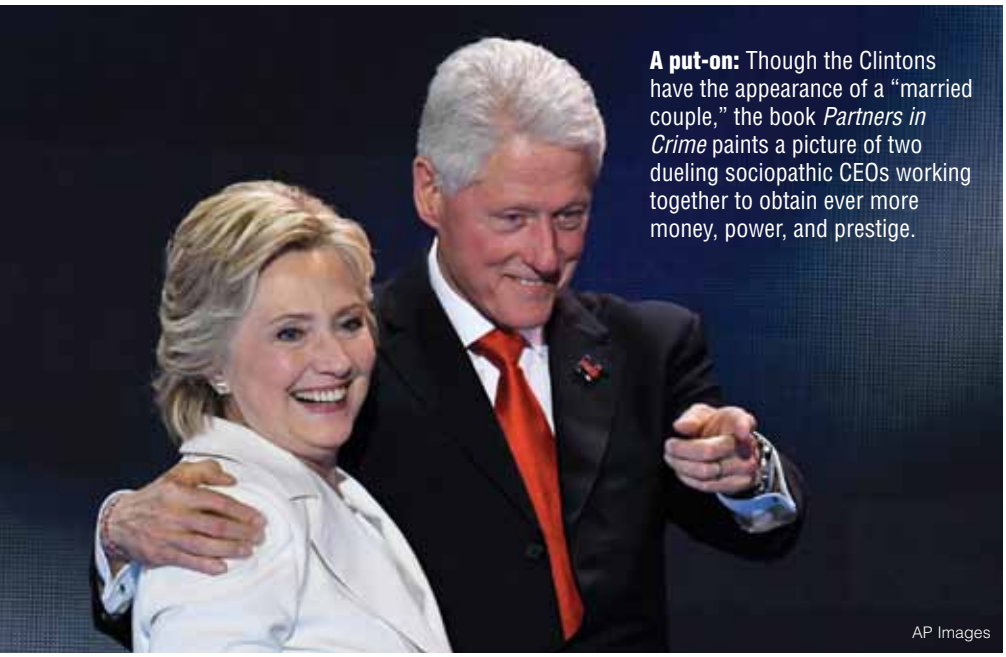
Basically, in broad daylight, the Clintons have been scamming humanity out of millions of dollars, fleecing taxpayers, creating a huge "slush fund for grifters," and putting their countrymen at risk in the process — all while using the cover of "charity."

bank accounts to conceal much of their scheming. Ironically, some of that information was revealed by Obama's research team when he was running against Hillary in the 2008 presidential contest. Corsi and others suggest that the suspicious entities and transfers should have been a giant red flag to any auditors or regulators examining the books. It is also hard to keep track of the perpetually shifting corporate structures involved in the Clinton Foundation scam — something that, while interesting, becomes tedious to read considering its mind-numbing complexity. Clinton operations feel a lot like a shell game.

Building on the explosive revelations in another book exposing the Clinton political dynasty, Peter Schweizer's *Clinton Cash*, Corsi's work provides even more compelling information suggesting massive bribery schemes spanning the entire globe. Basically, if some billionaire or dangerous foreign government needed a political favor, they could just deposit "donations" in the Clinton Foundation, or pay obscene amounts of money for a "speech" or "consulting," and get whatever they needed. "Favors" ranging from favorable regulatory treatment and access to important players to help from the State Department and legislation in Congress appear to have been doled out by the Clintons like candy, at least to those with the means to pay.

It might sound outrageous, but despite public appearances, after reading Corsi's book, family no longer even feels like the right word to describe the Clinton criminal enterprise. Among many other sources exposing Clinton cited in the book, Corsi quotes Daniel Halper, author of the explosive 2014 book *Clinton, Inc*. Halper described the Clintons as "dueling CEOs of a multi-million dollar empire, Clinton, Inc." And considering Bill Clinton's well-known sexcapades and involvement with other women — including the multiple women who have accused him of sexual assault over the years — that certainly seems to be an accurate characterization.

Indeed, after reading Corsi's book, it is hard to avoid the impression that the Clintons are not really a married couple in the sense that ordinary people think of it, but rather a team of psychopaths or sociopaths who have teamed up for mutual benefit in trying to satisfy their insatiable lust for wealth, power, and prestige. Considering the fact that one of them is once again within striking distance of the White House, the thought should send shivers down the spines of those who love America, the Constitution, and even common decency.



A put-on: Though the Clintons have the appearance of a "married couple," the book *Partners in Crime* paints a picture of two dueling sociopathic CEOs working together to obtain ever more money, power, and prestige.

AP Images

One of the sources that Corsi relied on heavily in the book is Wall Street analyst Charles Ortel, who conducted a comprehensive study of the Clinton Foundation's financial reports. His analysis of the outfit's public filings, along with the charts that are included in the book, are immensely helpful in trying to understand the enormity of the Clinton team's corruption. "All years from 2001 onward when the Clinton Foundation operated are not audited as required, so it is difficult to be precise, but total Clinton Foundation fraud runs to hundreds of millions of dollars, with diversions for political purposes and personal enrichment likely to exceed $200 million," Ortel is quoted as saying. The analyst also studied another phony "charity" the Clintons were involved with, known as the "American India Foundation," which Ortel refers to as a "false front," used to divert unknown sums of money and manufacture deductions for cronies.

Among the important Clinton cronies featured in Corsi's book is Canadian mining magnate Frank Giustra, who funneled tens of millions of dollars or more into Clinton coffers while allowing the Clintons to jet around the world in fancy private jets he owned (many other "businessmen" did the same thing). While Giustra is just one heavyweight among many involved in the Clinton scams, his story is extremely alarming because of the national security implications. He understood the benefits of being involved with the Clintons. "All of my chips, almost, are on Bill Clinton," Giustra is quoted as saying in the book. "He's a brand, a worldwide brand, and he can do things and ask for things that no one else can."

Giustra was not exaggerating, as his involvement with the Clinton crime family shows. To make a long and complex story short, Giustra took Bill Clinton with him on a trip to Kazakhstan on his private jet. The goal was simple: Get the nation's oppres-

sive ruler to allow Giustra to buy into three uranium projects controlled by the regime. It worked. On the other side of the world, Hillary Clinton was using her influence in Washington, D.C., to make sure there were no issues on the U.S. side. Once the deals were done, Giustra funneled massive amounts of money into Clinton, Inc. in the form of supposed "speaking fees" and "donations" to the foundation — tens of millions of dollars at a time.

The Giustra-Clinton shenanigans get even more outrageous, according to the book and the sources cited. Essentially, after acquiring the Kazakhstan investments and making a fortune in the process, the Kremlin's Russian State Atomic Nuclear Agency began negotiations to buy into Giustra's company, then known as Uranium One after a merger. By 2010, Uranium One had purchased so many uranium assets in the United States that it was on track to own more than half of all U.S. uranium output. Then, Bill Clinton went to Moscow, gave a $500,000 "speech" at a Kremlin-controlled bank, and suddenly, the relevant U.S. government agencies, including the Clinton-controlled State Department, were ready to approve the sale of those crucial uranium assets to Moscow. The national security and energy implications are massive.

On the subject of Canada and shady international deals, there are also some major scandals involving America's neighbor to the north. In an apparent scheme to conceal the identity of various international megadonors, the Clintons established another "foundation" in Canada. The excuse was that it was needed to secure a tax benefit for certain donors. However, investigations and reports cited in the book suggest that the claim of needing it for tax benefits was not true. Instead, it appears that establishing the Canadian outfit was an "elaborate scheme to hide both the identities of the Giustra-related donors and the facts of their contributions to the Clinton Foundation from the public," Corsi reported in the book. It has also emerged that Clinton Foundation claims about Canadian law allegedly prohibiting disclosure of donors' identities were false as well.

Aside from all the money flowing in from cronies, another troubling element of the saga is how taxpayers around the world were ripped off by the Clinton crime syndicate. One of the big transfers of taxpayer wealth to the Clintons came from an outfit known as UNITAID, a partnership between more than 30 national governments involving the United Nations and the UN World Health Organization. Under the guise of fighting HIV/AIDS, more than half of a billion dollars was funneled from the scheme into the Clinton Foundation's coffers, the overwhelming majority of it coming from taxpayers around the world. Of that, it appears that at least $75 million was diverted, according to financial statements from the outfit and the Clintons. When the Indian pharmaceutical company that was working with the Clintons was confronted with concerns about defective medicines being peddled as part of the scheme, one of the firm's executives was quoted as saying, "Who cares? It's just blacks dying." Eventually, Massachusetts shut down the Clinton HIV/AIDS scam in that state by revoking its authorization to do business there. But much remains to be done.

Give and take and take and take: Canadian "businessman" Frank Giustra, who stuffed the Clintons' bank accounts with tens of millions of dollars at a time, appears to have reaped significant financial benefits from lavishing money on the crime family.

Perhaps the most troubling single section of the book is the "State Department Scam," which outlines some of the ways in which the Clintons sold out America in exchange for "speaking fees" to Bill and "donations" to their family criminal enterprise. While occupying the secretary of state position, Hillary "used the office for Clinton family profit, continuing throughout her term to actively coordinate with Clinton Foundation principals." The chapter documents, among other corruption, how the Clinton Foundation continued to accept foreign donations and six-figure "speaking fees" for Bill from foreigners — many of whom benefited from decisions made by the State Department — all during Hillary's term leading the department. In total, Bill Clinton received almost $50 million in acknowledged "speaking fees" while Hillary was running Obama's foreign policy, including almost $10 million donated by companies or governments that at that moment had pending matters before the State Department. Suddenly the illegal Libya war and so many other difficult-to-explain schemes make more sense.

The e-mail scandal also takes on a new twist here. "The e-mails Hillary received and sent on her private e-mail server while secretary of state demonstrate how she and her top aides, including Cheryl Mills and Huma Abedin, maintained open lines of communication with the Clinton Foundation from the start," Corsi continued, adding that the e-mails to foundation officials also apparently included classified information. All of this was in direct defiance of a "Memorandum of Understanding" Clinton signed as a condition of taking the Cabinet post. However, the document, which promised that the foundation would stop accepting foreign donations to avoid even the appearance of corruption, apparently was not legally binding.

Basically, if some billionaire or dangerous foreign government needed a political favor, they could just deposit "donations" in the Clinton Foundation, or pay obscene amounts of money for a "speech" or "consulting," and get whatever they needed.

The book is depressing beyond measure, because it shows that Americans are being robbed blind and sold out by common criminals who are flagrantly doing it all out in the open. There is good news, though. *Partners in Crime* concludes with a solution to the horror and a call to action, urging readers to contact their state attorneys general with complaints about the criminal scam that is the Clinton Foundation. And with the evidence compiled in the book — all of it meticulously documented in a massive bibliography — successful prosecutions for a wide range of crimes across a large number of jurisdictions should be a slam-dunk. The book even contains the contact information for America's state attorneys general, along with instructions on how to file a complaint. All that is needed now is public awareness of the crimes to put pressure on officials, and a brave prosecutor or two willing to do their job and enforce the laws as written — even against one of the most powerful crime families in America.

That might be easier said than done, though. As longtime readers of this magazine know well, the Clintons are no strangers to serious crime and mega-scandal. The infamous Chinagate scandal, for example, involved the transfer of some of America's most sensitive nuclear and military technology to the ruthless Communist Chinese dictatorship — all in exchange for illegal campaign contributions. Then there was Libyagate, Whitewatergate, Filegate, Fostergate, Travelgate, Troopergate, Lincoln Bedroomgate, Bimbogate, Pardongate, Wacogate, and more. Unfortunately the book only offers a brief review of some of the Clinton scandals of past decades, leaving a political novice in the dark about crucial information showing that the Clinton crime family has been at this for a very long time. So far, thanks in large part to their political connections and fearsome reputations, the Clintons have managed to escape justice. At some point, though, it is likely to catch up to them. Even GOP presidential contender Donald Trump, as a Clinton benefactor, apparently has standing to get involved if he wants.

AP Images

He gets paid to play: Former President Bill Clinton, who founded the criminal syndicate known as the "Clinton Foundation," became ultra wealthy selling favors disguised as "speeches," earning $50 million while his wife was secretary of state.

"Any one attorney general in any state in the Union can get a temporary restraining order from a state judge to call a stop to the Clinton Foundation nationwide, simply by placing the Clinton Foundation in receivership until the state attorney general seeking the temporary restraining order from a state judge has the time required to conduct a thorough law enforcement examination of Clinton family philanthropic fraud accomplished not just in the state bringing the action, but also on a global scale," Corsi explained. "I wrote *Partners in Crime* to encourage all patriotic and law-abiding Americans to understand it is not enough for Hillary Clinton to withdraw from the 2016 presidential race in disgrace. A national campaign to 'Shut Down the Clinton Foundation' must be launched, even if Hillary is indicted for criminal charges or drops out of the presidential election for other reasons."

Of course, a number of Clinton associates have already been ensnared by their corrupt scheming, and even the Clintons couldn't save them. Some of those crooks, including corrupt "businessman" Rajat Gupta, who served alongside Bill Clinton on the board of the "American India Foundation (AIF)," are right now sitting in federal prison for corrupt dealings. Indeed, it's astounding how many charlatans, felons, and criminals seem to surround the Clintons, with many of them discussed in the book. The truth is increasingly trickling out, and polls show America knows that the Clintons are "crooked."

Dr. Corsi, the author of two *New York Times* bestsellers, does a masterful job exposing the Clinton crime family and building a foundation for a legal case for their prosecution. While the book will no doubt be ignored or dismissed by the Clinton camp and its "mainstream" media allies as a partisan attack, just like the other scandals that Hillary infamously attributed to a "vast right-wing conspiracy," it is nothing of the sort. Instead, it is likely just scratching the surface behind what has become one of the most powerful criminal syndicates in the world. For the sake of America and humanity, this crime family must be exposed before it wreaks even more havoc on America and her liberties — not to mention the rest of the world. Corsi's book is yet another valuable tool in that effort. ■

What's Wrong With the Redistribution of Wealth?

It is commonly believed that a proper function of government is to "level the playing field" by ensuring that the rich pay their "fair share" of taxes, and that the poor and disadvantaged receive extra help from government in the form of subsidies, grants, and "welfare." (Originally called the "dole," welfare was given its current name in the 1930s, as a way to sell FDR's "New Deal" program to the American public. The term was intended to confer constitutional legitimacy, since the preamble proclaims one of the purposes of government to be supporting the "general welfare." But in reality, "welfare" is just a new name for the dole — the traditional term for using the government in order to rob Peter to pay Paul.) All such policies have as their stated aim creating greater equality. Originally scorned as "the leveling impulse," wealth redistribution has come to pervade much of what the federal government does.

But is there anything wrong with government "leveling the playing field"? Consider what this practice entails in reality. Whenever government takes from one class of people in order to give to another, it is taking the property of some and giving it to others. The fact that some are wealthier than others is mere sophistry, an argument designed to distract from the real issue of government redistribution: It is theft, pure and simple.

Along with the right to life, the right to property ownership must be deemed among the most important God-given rights conferred upon fallen man. But whereas the people almost always raise an indignant hue and cry whenever government unjustly deprives men of their lives (as, for example, when an officer of the law kills a citizen without just cause, or when government dispatches its military forces to wage war for unjust purposes), the voice of the people tends to fall silent when government commits legal theft (or "legal plunder," in the phraseology of French economist and statesman Frédéric Bastiat). One reason for this inconsistency is that a life, once taken, cannot be restored, and state-sanctioned murder thus becomes a crime that cannot be ignored. But stolen property can be given to someone else under the false color of social justice, a fact that dishonest politicians have ever taken advantage of to portray their depredations as a form of charity.

Surely, we are told, the rich must "pay their fair share" — which implies that someone in government is possessed of the empyrean wisdom to determine what is fair, how much property is too much, and how much of a man's assets must be seized and given to others in order to right the scales of justice. Or we are told, like Marxist acolytes, that the government must take from each according to his ability and redistribute to each according to his need. This, again, assumes that there are people somewhere in government who know better than we ourselves do how much we need.

But even if such all-knowing people could be found and depended upon to redistribute money and other assets according to what each of us truly needs and deserves, redistribution remains a form of theft — and theft is never justified, no matter how much the would-be thief may dislike or envy the neighbor who is richer than he.

Government is nothing more (or less!) than collectivized force. It arose in the first place because people agreed to delegate to government certain rights that are often more effectively exercised collectively than individually. One of these, for example, is the right to self-defense. If a person is morally justified in defending himself, his family, and his friends from outside attack, it follows that the government can legitimately do the same. Anything that an individual can licitly do can be delegated by the people to the government.

By the same token, the people cannot delegate to government any authority that individuals do not possess. If individuals have no right to take money and property by force from one neighbor and confer them on another (which they do not!), then government has no legitimate source for its supposed authority to do the same on a society-wide basis.

When this notion — that government does possess this authority, as a result of some vaguely defined collective right — gains too much currency, the very survival of the state comes into doubt. This is because the use of government as an instrument of legal plunder destroys any moral legitimacy the government may have. People rightly come to chafe under the yoke of redistributionist "welfarism," and eventually decide to become participants in the corrupt system. "Since the government is taking from me to give to others," goes the rationale, "I might as well get my fair share of the loot from everyone else." In this way have we built a system utterly dependent on such false public largess; student loans, housing subsidies, research grants, socialized medicine, welfare checks, farm subsidies, and all other forms of government welfare are symptoms of the leveling impulse, and constitute forms of legal plunder great and small.

The great moral ill of our age with respect to property is not that some men have too much of it and some too little, but that our own government, under the guise of fairness, has been converted into a monstrous tool of larceny on a society-wide scale. The proper role of government is to refrain from wealth redistribution, and to encourage policies that encourage the formation of capital. Only thus will the rich get richer — even as the poor get richer, too. ■

— Charles Scaliger

Blessing Box

After being inundated with negativity from recent news stories, Jeanetta Presley of Muncie, Indiana, decided she wanted to be a source of positivity in her community. *USA Today* reported that in August, Presley put out a "Blessing Box" — in which strangers can take items they need and donate items for others in need — at the end of her front yard.

The sign on the box reads, "Take what you need, bring what you can." The box includes items such as dry pasta, baby formula, and other non-perishables. She stocks the box as often as she can and checks the inventory daily, but indicated that she will not be able to afford to keep the box stocked and is hoping that others will donate as needed.

Presley reportedly conceived the idea after she saw a church in Georgia had done something similar. She hopes that the idea takes off and spreads to other communities.

"It's not a lot; it's a little," Presley said. "But you can take a box of macaroni and cheese, a can of tuna and a can of peas, and you can make a casserole. And it's out there."

"I would like to see (all) neighborhoods do it," she said. "I think it would benefit each and every neighborhood if just one person in that neighborhood started a box, and the rest of the neighborhood kept it going."

Protect, Serve, and Beyond

Police officers in Houston did something noble for a homeless man known only as Quintus.

Sergeant Stephen Wick and Officer Colin Mansfield are with the Houston Police Department's Homeless Outreach program and, through the program, had met Quintus, a blind, elderly, homeless man.

Sergeant Wick told *Inside Edition* that he's known Quintus for about a year through his department and that he took a special interest in him.

On July 19, the officers purchased new clothes and shoes for Quintus, and approached him to help dress him. It was then they discovered that his hygiene was particularly unhealthy. He had soiled himself, and his feet were filthy. What's more, his toenails were so overgrown that they were cutting into his own feet. As a result, Quintus could barely walk.

Sergeant Wick did something pretty incredible. He washed Quintus' feet and gave him a pedicure.

Sergeant Wick explained, "We tried to get his feet in shape so he could put shoes on. His vision deteriorated to a point where he couldn't function as well anymore."

Quintus has glaucoma, which has rendered him about 95 percent blind.

After Wick attended to Quintus' feet, the two officers gave him a place to shower, KHOU.com reported.

Unbeknownst to the officers, a photo of Sergeant Wick tending to Quintus' feet was snapped by the Homeless Outreach Team, which takes pictures to document people's progress. The photo has gone viral. The Houston Police Officer's Union posted the photo on its Facebook page with this message: "Folks don't be fooled by what some in the media and politicians make us out to be. We are men and women of service, we took an oath to protect you and we will lay down our lives for you. This is who we are, this is what we stand for!"

For Sergeant Wick, his actions were nothing extraordinary. "It didn't have some deep meaning, but it made me feel good to be able to help Quintus," he told *Inside Edition*. "Help your neighbor if you can. Get out there and help folks."

But for Quintus, the act of kindness is likely one he won't soon forget. And for those who have seen the photo, it is truly an inspiration and a reminder that there are many more good people in this world than bad.

Bike Ride to a Great Future

When people learned that a 19-year-old homeless Georgia resident biked six hours to register for college classes and would remain homeless until the dorms opened, they responded with abundant generosity.

On July 9, Fred Barley, 19, rode a little boy's 20″ bicycle with two duffel bags, two gallons of water, and a box of cereal for six hours from Conyers, Georgia, to Barnesville, Georgia, to register for classes at Gordon State College, and then he set up in a tent on campus grounds while he waited for the opening of the school's dorms on July 18.

After responding to a trespassing call about a suspicious person in a tent, campus police encountered Barley and learned his story.

The officers told Barley that he could not remain in his tent, but brought him to a local motel and paid for him to stay for two nights, an act that meant a lot to Barley. "The stuff that's happening with police officers, I am black and he didn't care what color I was. He just helped me and that meant a lot," Barley recalled.

One of the officer's wives posted Barley's story on Facebook, and other Facebook users reached out to offer their assistance. One user, Casey Blaney, contacted the hotel where Barley was staying and offered to pay for the remainder of his stay until the dorms opened on July 18.

Additionally, local pizzeria owner Debbie Adamson offered Barley a job so that he could earn money off-campus while at school. "I didn't know his name. I didn't know the color of his skin. I didn't care," Adamson told WSB. "I've been there, so I guess I had a soft spot for anyone who is that determined to succeed."

Clothes, school supplies, shoes, and a new bike have been donated to Barley from people across the country. Others have offered to take care of Barley's health and dental needs, WSB TV reported.

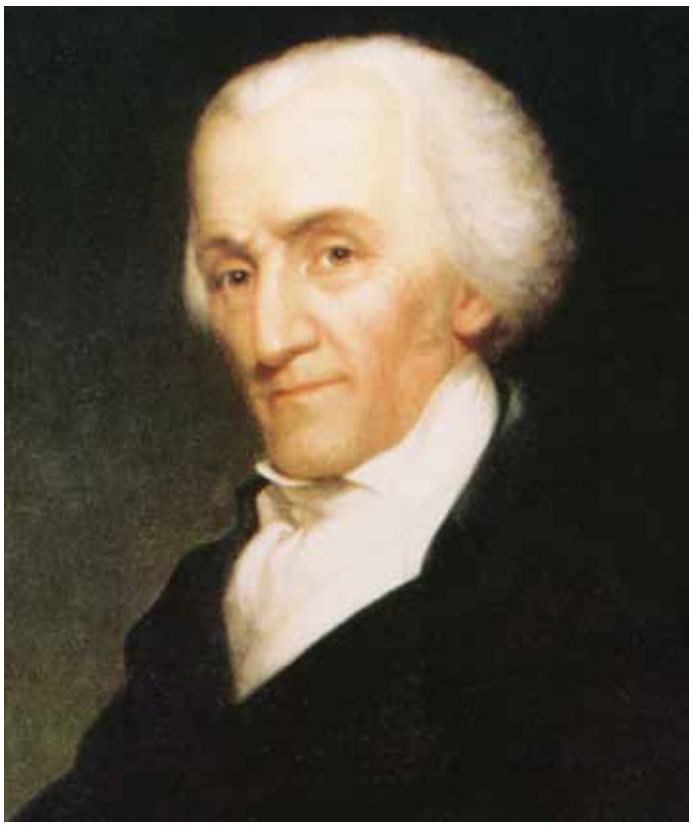
On July 12, Blaney also set up a GoFundMe page for Barley. The page received $183,896 in donations, far surpassing the $150,000 goal.

Barley's friend Shaina Boyd posted a video message on Facebook that allowed Barley to thank everyone for their kindness. He promised to repay them all by maintaining good grades so that their efforts were not for naught. "I love you all, and I want to make all of you guys proud," he said. ■

— Raven Clabough

Elbridge Gerry's Goings-on

Founder Elbridge Gerry refused to surrender trade policy and taxation to the British, or the powers of the people and states to the federal government.



by Joe Wolverton II, J.D.

Elbridge Gerry was a forceful member of the Founding generation whose name and contribution to the cause of liberty have been nearly forgotten by his 21st-century countrymen. In truth, the name of Gerry likely would be completely unknown were it not for its attachment to the apportionment scheme known as "gerrymandering."

Given that Gerry was among the most active participants at the Constitutional Convention of 1787 (he delivered at least 119 speeches on a variety of subjects), and given his leadership role in the unsuccessful anti-Federalist attempt to prevent ratification of the document drafted during that historic summer in Philadelphia, his near anonymity is something of a head-scratcher.

Gerry was born on July 17, 1744 in Marblehead, Massachusetts, the third of 12 children of Thomas Gerry, a wealthy and influential codfish merchant. Thomas was, M.E. Bradford writes, a "sober Puritan," but he and all his children threw themselves zealously into the organized resistance to English economic regulations being imposed on trade in Massachusetts and elsewhere.

Although the Gerry family's fierce opposition to the Stamp Act, the Sugar Act, and the Boston Port Act likely stemmed from the detrimental effect those measures had on their business shipping dried codfish to the West Indies, Elbridge's sincere and steadfast commitment to the patriot cause is beyond dispute.

In fact, Gerry's resistance to what he and his countrymen considered English despotism was so reliable and respected that he was elected time and again to political office in local and state government before and after the outbreak of the War for Independence.

Beginning to Toil

While serving as a member of the Massachusetts General Court, Gerry became acquainted with men who soon would become the leading lights of the struggle for the restoration of American liberty, men with famous and familiar names such as Sam Adams and John Hancock.

During his time toiling with these rebellious representatives, Gerry became a protege of Sam Adams, the founder of the Sons of Liberty and an eloquent and charismatic prophet of the patriot cause.

That isn't to say that Gerry was merely a spectator, however. He employed his education (he graduated from Harvard in 1762) and his enthusiasm to write the Essex Resolves, a formal enumeration of "unconstitutional acts" committed by the representatives of the Crown in Massachusetts.

Even in this worthwhile endeavor, though, Gerry's work lingers in the historical shadow cast by the much more well-known Suffolk Resolves. The Essex contribution is notable in its own right, and it is worth noting that while John Hancock, Sam Adams, Benjamin Lincoln, and Robert Treat Paine were all members of the body of deputies that congregated at the Salem courthouse to compile a list of grievances against the royal governor and the king, it was Elbridge Gerry who was tasked by those talented patriots to take pen in hand and memorialize their remonstrances.

Among the four items that comprise the Essex Resolves, the last is memorable for its claim of "the necessity and most vigorous and immediate exertions for preserving the freedom and constitution of [Massachusetts]."

The final paragraph of the Essex Resolves declares that those deputies and any others who should be elected by the people of Massachusetts were now to be known as the Provincial Congress, and they would work out the policies to be pursued in addressing the "dangerous and alarming situation."

While working in the Massachusetts Provincial Congress, Gerry was selected to sit on the Committee of Correspondence, and it was in this company that he was responsible — along with Hancock and Sam Adams — for concocting and carrying out a plan to prepare the patriots, including arming them in anticipation of war with British soldiers stationed in and around Boston, whose movements and methods were becoming increasingly insufferable and provocative.

Gerry was sleeping at a tavern when British regulars busted in, intending to capture the colonial rabble rouser. Still dressed in his night shirt, Gerry escaped unharmed, fleeing into the field of a nearby farm.

The night before the "Shot Heard 'Round the World" was fired at Lexington Green, Elbridge Gerry's work to help restore liberty and self-government to Massachusetts was almost brought to an abrupt and early end. Gerry was sleeping at a tavern when British regulars busted in, intending to capture the colonial rabble-rouser. Still dressed in his night shirt, Gerry escaped unharmed, fleeing into the field of a nearby farm.

As petition after petition failed to achieve any acceptable reconciliation with the Crown, Gerry's active participation in the political arena persisted, but he served and suffered personally, as well. During his time as chairman of the Massachusetts Committee of Supply, Gerry's family shipping business located at Marblehead contributed considerably to the supplying of material to the Massachusetts militia. Gerry's personal fortune took a hit at this time, as the ships that would have been used to carry out trade between Massachusetts and the Caribbean were instead occupied moving critical stores from Boston to the troops in the field.

In January 1776, he was elected to the Second Continental Congress, scheduled to meet the following month in Philadelphia.

Here again, Gerry demonstrated not only his unwavering allegiance to the cause of powerfully pushing back against the crescendo of British abuse of authority (very early in his term he called for separation from the "prostituted government of Great Britain"), but his willingness to sacrifice his personal welfare, as well.

Gerry was assigned by the congress to serve on the Committee of the Commissary, and as such he oversaw and organized the supply of goods to the Continental Army. While he was in Philadelphia, Gerry's father and brothers carried on with their shipping business in Marblehead. Gerry could have parlayed his family's position into pecuniary gain, but he refused to profit from the war, even going so far as to hammer out an agreement with other New England merchants to set fixed prices for various commodities required by the American military.

As stated above, Gerry was no moderate. Of those who preferred petitions to combat and who pushed for reconciliation rather than resistance, Gerry wrote, "Some timid minds are terrified at the word independence. If you think caution in this respect good policy, change the name."

The Gerry family were fishermen and traders, members of the Massachusetts set known as the "codfish aristocracy." After the outbreak of war with Great Britain, the Gerry family used their ships to supply material to the Massachusetts militia.

Independence was declared, and although Gerry was an ardent advocate, he was away from Philadelphia on that historic date and did not sign the Declaration of Independence until he got back to town in September.

Despite his unalloyed allegiance to the restoration of American liberty, within two years of signing the Declaration of Independence, Gerry would take leave of his seat in Congress, protesting what he saw as increasingly invasive policies. He was accused of having failed to secure Massachusetts' quota of supplies for the army and did not return to Philadelphia for three years, although he was technically still a delegate. Indeed, Gerry's rock-ribbed defense of the sovereignty of the state of Massachusetts and its authority to set and pursue domestic policy without interference from Congress alienated him from many members of the Second Continental Congress.

During his absence from Philadelphia, Gerry sat as a member of the Massachusetts State Legislature, working to protect state prerogatives from the meddling of the members of the Continental Legislature.

With the successful conclusion of the War for Independence, Gerry continued serving as a member of Congress and the Massachusetts State Legislature, never neglecting his private business interests, however. His last few years in Congress — he left for the last time in November 1785 — were spent in a variety of endeavors: pushing for development of the Northwest Territories (investments in those areas would have brought him a substantial windfall were the territories to become states), fighting for the dissolution of the Society of the Cincinnati (the, some argued, aristocratic organization comprised of former officers of the Continental Army), and for the related cause of mustering out the remaining armed forces, insisting that such was unnecessary and was nothing more than a standing army, a perpetual threat to liberty.

Constitutional Conventioneer

When the call for revision of the Articles of Confederation led to a convention of the states scheduled to begin in May 1787,

Gerry was once again sent by the citizens of Massachusetts to represent their interests and their independence.

This assignment in Philadelphia would be as friendless as his previous stint, owing principally to his principles. Gerry refused from the first banging of the gavel to give an inch of Massachusetts soil or sovereignty to a "national" government. As described by M.E. Bradford, "As he made clear in 119 speeches and in many motions and seconding of motions, [Gerry] had not come to Philadelphia to vote Massachusetts out of existence or to compromise its political or cultural integrity."

As far as Elbridge Gerry was concerned, his purpose in Philadelphia was to amend the Articles of Confederation, not replace them, and to establish some sort of workable confederation that would prevent populist uprisings of the sort carried out by Daniel Shays and his associates. In other words, Gerry wanted to perpetuate the union, establish domestic tranquility, and obviate the conditions that created calls for radical democracy.

"The evils we experience flow from the excess of democracy," he said during a speech delivered on May 31 in opposition to a proposal to have the members of the "national legislature" elected by the people, rather than by the state legislatures.

As the purpose of the convention became clear to Gerry, he toiled tirelessly to thwart what he perceived as a push for a national rather than a federal government, as made clear, to him, by the introduction by Edmund Randolph of the Virginia Plan.

On May 30, Gerry is reported by James Madison (the architect of the Virginia Plan) to have "entertained the same doubt" as expressed by Charles Pinckney of South Carolina, namely, "whether the act of Congress recommending the convention or the commissions of the deputies to it could authorize a discussion of a system founded on different principles than the federal constitution [the Articles of Confederation]."

Despite his misgivings of the legitimacy of the apparent aim of the convention's organizers to abolish the Articles of Confederation and replace them with a constitution establishing a more "energetic government," Gerry stayed at the convention, contributing something to nearly every issue of importance debated during that long, hot summer of 1787.

Elbridge Gerry was a member of the Second Continental Congress, and he was one of the members of that historic body who quickly and consistently called for a formal dissolution of the political bands tying the colonies to Great Britain.

Gerry's positions were not always consistent, however. He seems to have, in modern parlance, flip-flopped on any number of issues, even those of seeming substantial impact on the independence of the states.

This fluidity of favor prompted Brion McClanahan to describe Elbridge Gerry as "quite possibly the most complex character of the Founding generation."

It is easy to see why McClanahan would take such a position with regard to Gerry. He was, it seemed, all over the map during the convention. For example, he said he feared that the proposed plan of government would leave states "altered as in effect to be dissolved," and refused to give his assent to any suggestion that states be subordinate in sovereignty to the proposed "general government."

Yet, less than a month from his warning that the convention was overstepping its bounds and encroaching on state authority, Gerry reprimanded those representatives who were jealously guarding the sovereign status of their states. On June 29, James Madison made the following entry in his record of the proceedings of the convention:

> Mr. Gerry urged that we never were independent states, were not such now and never could be even on the principles of the confederation. The states and the advocates for them were intoxicated with the idea of their *sovereignty*.

Such swings of support were dubbed by McClanahan as a "typical Gerry turnabout."

There were, however, some issues where Gerry staked out his position and from which he never retreated. He fought repeatedly for inclusion of a bill of rights, for state control of the election of the executive, and for a prohibition on the acceptance by congressmen of "offices" while serving in the legislature and for a year afterwards.

It was on this last point, a point that seems so timely in this era of the revolving door between the Capitol and contractors, that Gerry spoke at great length.

Gerry worried that allowing federal legislators to accept such positions would "produce intrigues of ambitious men for displacing proper officers in order to create vacancies for themselves."

To avoid such avarice, Gerry advocated inclusions of explicit restrictions on the practice. When other members argued that congressmen could be relied on to not take such self-serving steps, Gerry warned, "Confidence is the road to tyranny."

Yet another example of Elbridge Gerry's ability to foresee a time when federal officials would usurp powers beyond those enumerated in the Constitution is found in the record of the deliberations of August 17. On that day, upon hearing a recommendation that the president be endowed with the exclusive power to declare war, Gerry is reported to have said that he "never expected to hear in a republic a motion to empower the executive alone to declare war."

The Founding Fathers wisely assigned

"The evils we experience flow from the excess of democracy," he said during a speech delivered on May 31 in opposition to a proposal to have the members of the "national legislature" elected by the people, rather than by the state legislatures.

the power to declare war to Congress. But in light of the unconstitutional usurpation of that very power by generations of American presidents, one must wonder if Gerry would consider the United States of America a republic today.

Prescient Observer

Finally, on Saturday, September 15, the penultimate day of deliberation at the Constitutional Convention, Elbridge Gerry declared eight "objections that determined him to withhold his name from the Constitution." He added, however, that he could "get over all these" if it wasn't for three aspects of the proposed government that he believed would leave "the rights of citizens … rendered insecure." These three insuperable threats to individual liberty were:

1. The power of Congress to "make whatever laws they may please to call necessary and proper";
2. The power of Congress to "raise armies and money without limit";
3. The power to establish "tribunals without juries, which will be Star Chambers as to civil cases."

Each of Gerry's complaints about the Constitution's granting of too much power to the central government has proven prophetic.

Despite clear statements by James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and others of the original intent of this provision, the "necessary and proper clause" has become an inch-wide gap of ambiguity through which has passed a mile-wide column of congressional tyranny.

The armed forces of the United States are strong and they should be. What they should not be, however, is the military arm of an empire that inserts itself into every civil war and foreign combat zone around the globe.

As for money, with the establishment in 1913 of the Federal Reserve, the government created a cartel possessed of the power to control the economic welfare of the United States and to exert substantial control over the financial stability of the entire planet.

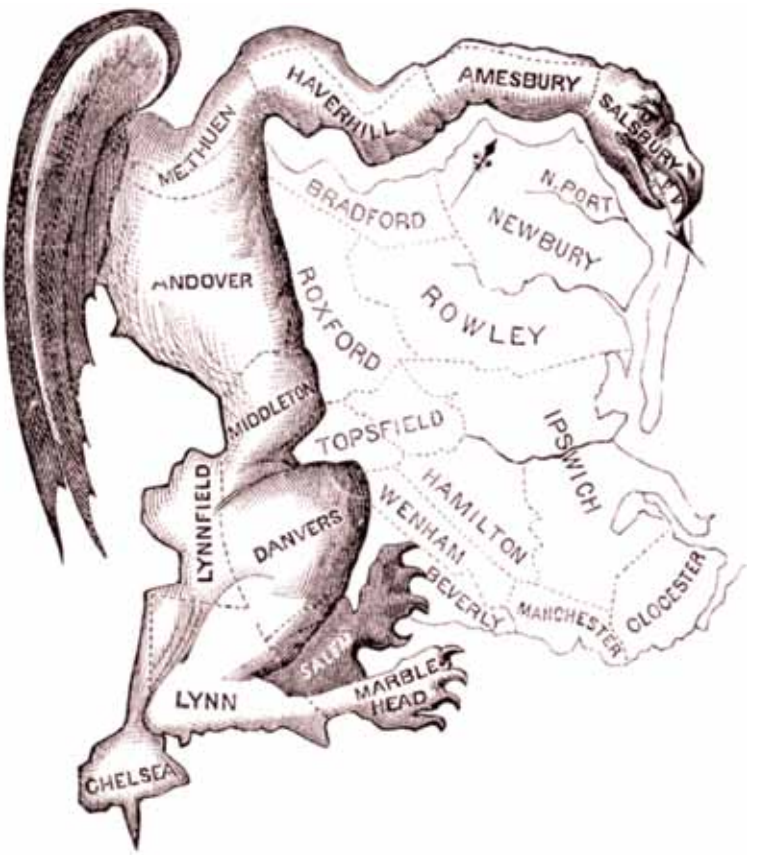
Finally, regarding Gerry's warning regarding the empaneling of tribunals without juries and their propensity to function like the Star Chamber (an English court of the 14th to 17th centuries that met in secret, with no record of indictments, no identification of witnesses, and no transcript of the proceedings), the likening of the FISA courts' (courts created by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act Amendments) absolute approval of requests by the government to monitor citizens' electronic communication to the decisions of the Star Chamber is apt and accurate on many points.

After the convention, Gerry sent a letter to the Massachusetts State Legislature explaining why he could not consent to the Constitution. His reasons weren't enough to satisfy many lawmakers, who accused him of being self-serving and of poor judgment.

Regardless of these recriminations, Gerry persisted in his opposition to the Constitution.

Among other things, Gerry feared many in Massachusetts (and her sister states) would be inclined to blindly accept the proposed constitution simply because of the promises of the famous names associated with its production and promotion. "It must be admitted, that a free people are the proper guardians of their rights & liberties—that the greatest men may err — & that their errors are sometimes, of the greatest magnitude," he declared.

Once again, time has proven Gerry prescient. We are, today, being led to accept any number of unconstitutional programs and policies by the savvy speeches of very powerful people. Sadly, most of these schemes serve ultimately not to protect us, but to deprive us of our God-given right of self-government and lull us into a stupor, leaving our liberties unguarded, prey for freedom-fearing despots. ■



In 1812, while serving as governor of Massachusetts, Elbridge Gerry approved a redistricting plan for the Senate district of the town of Essex that favored his political party. It was dubbed "Gerrymandering" because of the district's likeness to a salamander.

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Housesitters Fend Off Intruder

The ABC affiliate in Omaha, Nebraska, reported on August 6 about a man who broke in to a house that was being watched by two housesitters. The incident happened around 2:15 a.m., when the two housesitters woke up to the sounds of someone kicking in a door to one of the bedrooms. One of the housesitters, 19-year-old Zachary Schmid, grabbed a pistol he kept nearby and fired at the intruder. The injured assailant fled the scene, but was found by authorities not far from the house. The suspect, 26-year-old Darrick Minner, was taken to a nearby medical facility for surgery and is expected to survive. Police would later say that Minner was an ex-boyfriend of the homeowner and that charges are pending.

Deranged Man Shot by Homeowner

Michigan Live (MLive.com) reported on August 5 about a home invasion that involved a deranged intruder who claimed to have just killed a police officer. The occupants of the house were bothered shortly after midnight by the sounds of someone entering through an unlocked door. One of the residents grabbed his 9mm pistol, confronted the trespasser, and yelled for him to leave, but the man refused. The intruder also made a terrifying claim about killing a police officer. The residents called 911 to report the intruder, and police were already in the area owing to a single-vehicle accident that had occurred just down the road a few moments previously. Law enforcement would later learn as part of their investigation that the car crash and the home invasion were linked, as the intruder was allegedly the driver of the vehicle.

Clare County sheriff's deputies arrived on the scene and entered the house while the suspect was still there. At that moment, the suspect began running through the house and broke in to one of the bedrooms. A resident then fired his pistol at the intruder one time, and hit the suspect in the neck. The injured suspect was transported to a local hospital for treatment. There were no other reported injuries.

Michigan State Police Lieutenant Gary Green told MLive.com that the suspect was in "stable condition." Green said the suspect had an outstanding warrant from the Department of Corrections and had been in a car crash down the road prior to the home invasion. "He didn't want to go back to prison, and so he fled from that crash," Green said to MLive.com. "This was kind of an isolated incident.... He just picked a house at random to try to get away. I don't know how you could prepare for that as a family," he said. Green did advise homeowners to verify their doors are locked and to always be prepared if trouble rears its ugly head. Green also told CNN, "If you feel like your life is in danger, you do have the right to defend yourself. I'm not saying that's what happened, that's part of this investigation."

Alabama Open Carry

The *Cullman Times* out of Alabama reported on August 2 about public reaction to the state's open carry laws. You can openly carry a firearm in Alabama without any special licensing requirements, but concealed carry still requires special authorization. The 2013 law also expanded the rights of gun owners to open carry in most businesses.

Reporter David Palmer interviewed people on their views about the law and got varying responses. Cullman Police Chief Kenny Culpepper told the *Cullman Times* that "some people may want to make a point that they can do this by law and certainly we recognize the right to own guns.... One of the concerns under the law now is that if you were drunk and carrying a gun you could have your license revoked. Under this law you can carry a gun, provided you're not a felon and get drunk and you don't lose the right to carry it. The old adage guns and alcohol don't mix still holds merit."

Sheriff Matt Gentry described himself as "very pro Second Amendment" and told the *Cullman Times*, "I want citizens to be able to protect themselves because law enforcement may be minutes away, and a citizen may only have a minute.... The most important thing to me is that you know how to properly handle your firearms so that you and others are safe."

Cullman resident Jerry Parker is a strong supporter of the law, and he told the *Cullman Times* that he carries a gun "for self-preservation." Parker also stressed that our increasingly violent times require fast action. "The world has changed and there are some crazy people out there. You don't have just radical Islamists, you have people targeting police officers and that's nuts in our country." Parker added, "I know owning and carrying a gun comes with an immense responsibility."

Smith Lake resident Lee Hart feels that open carry helps discourage criminal activity. "In a lot of ways I feel like if more people open carry it would put an end to some problems. I think it could be a deterrent to some crimes."

Reverend John Richter, pastor of St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church in Cullman, was one of the law's few detractors, who felt that more people carrying arms will not reduce gun violence. "My guess is open carry will not make us a safer society. I understand people need to feel safe.... We do have a spiritual problem and a culture that has an increasingly secularized world view. I'm more concerned about the problems that cause us to feel this way."

The longtime owner of Wilborn Outdoors, Dennis Wilborn, told the *Cullman Times* about how his business model has changed almost totally to self-defense weapons and accessories. "I started my store as a place to get things to enjoy life, for hunting and fishing.... Now, just about everybody is here for self-protection — guns, ammo and the accessories. It's really sad, but people are worried because of so many things that have happened in our country." Overall though, Wilborn was grateful for the changes in the law that made it easier to carry firearms: "The way it is now I'm glad people can carry guns. I know someone can get to their gun if all hell breaks loose." ■

— Patrick Krey

Feds Subsidize Junk-food Consumption, Foster Dependence

Item: *Writing in the* Los Angeles Times *for December 29, 2015, in a piece entitled "Despite GOP efforts, Obama's safety net expansion is historic," Noam Levey reported: "Despite Republican majorities in Congress through much of his tenure and increasingly insistent calls from GOP presidential candidates to rein in 'free stuff,' President Obama has engineered the largest expansion of the federal government's safety net in half a century, a record he cemented further as he closed out his seventh year."*

Item: *"Maine's residents would no longer receive food stamps if Gov. Paul LePage (R) delivers on a threat to end his state's administration of the program," reported the* Washington Post *on June 22.*

The Post's *Max Ehrenfreund continued:*

> *In a letter to the Obama administration last week, the governor wrote that beneficiaries were wasting public money on "a steady diet of Mars bars and Mountain Dew" and that he did not want his name associated with the program.*
>
> *The letter escalated a long-running dispute between LePage and the administration over several aspects of the food-stamp program. Most recently, LePage had wanted to bar Maine residents from using food stamps to buy unhealthy food. When federal officials rejected his proposal to institute such a rule statewide, LePage reacted angrily.*
>
> *... "I will be pursuing options to implement reform unilaterally or cease Maine's administration of the food stamp program altogether," the letter continued.*

Item: *The "progressive"* Nation *magazine for June 24, 2016, in commenting on the Maine governor's actions concerning food stamps — rebranded as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) — indignantly noted that LePage had already "kicked more than 6,000 people off food assistance last fall, after he reinstated stringent time limits for the program."*

The magazine also blasted the potential "devastating impact" this would have on the governor's constituents, saying that one of every seven residents in the state "rely on food stamps." SNAP "also has important economic benefits," said the publication. Last year alone, for example, "the program provided almost $280 million in federal dollars to the state, which were distributed among more than 1,500 state retailers."

Moreover, said Nation's *Alyssa Peterson and Jeremy Slevin, this "effort also demonstrates the risk of giving state executives such as LePage more authority over antipoverty programs."*

Getting free food is a SNAP: Under the Obama and George W. Bush administrations, the number of recipients on the food-stamp program called SNAP rose — from 17 million in 2000 to 46 million by 2015. The costs quadrupled, from $18 billion in 2000 to $78 billion in 2016.

Correction: There are many reasons why Americans are fed up with solutions proffered by "progressives."

One in particular lies with their assumption that if there is a problem anywhere in the country its answer hinges on more money being spent by the federal government. Corollaries are the suppositions that officials in state governments should be mere appendages of the wizards in Washington, and that exercising personal responsibility is an antediluvian concept.

It should go without saying that Maine Governor Paul LePage is no favorite of those on the Left — especially since his background (including being a runaway at age 11 who became a successful businessman) tends to spoil the left-wing narrative: The former homeless teen was born into a family of 18 children.

LePage is beyond the pale for "liberals." He doesn't even believe that a major federal anti-poverty "nutrition" program should be subsidizing the consumption of soft drinks and candy. Worse, his state administration has already made inroads into the overspending on the multi-billion-dollar food-stamp program. Along with the rest of welfare spending in this country, SNAP expenditures have been ballooning. As summarized by Chris Edwards in the Daily Caller, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program was inflated in the administrations of both

> George W. Bush and Barack Obama. The number of recipients rose from 17 million in 2000 to 46 million by 2015. The costs quadrupled from $18 billion in 2000 to $78 billion in 2016.
>
> The continued growth in food stamps is perplexing because social conditions are vastly improved since the program was created in the 1960s. Food stamps were created to

> tackle hunger, but Harvard University's Robert Paarlberg notes that on a typical day less than 1 percent of households now face "very low food security." That low figure contrasts with the 18 percent of U.S. households that receive food stamps.
>
> The main food-related health problem for low-income households today is not hunger, but obesity.

In recent years, the group that has been growing the most rapidly among those receiving food stamps has been able-bodied adults without dependents — known as ABAWDs in bureaucratic and policy circles. As was pointed out in a recent Heritage Foundation "Issue Brief," members of this group are adults between ages 18 and 49 who are not disabled and do not have children to support. "In 2014, nearly five million ABAWDs received food stamps each month; few are employed." The Maine governor instituted a three-month SNAP limit (every three years) on such recipients unless they work 20 hours a week, take a state job-training course, or volunteer about six hours a week. (Maine is one of several states able to get a waiver over aspects of the SNAP program, as the *New York Times* pointed out last year.)

As Rachel Seffield and Robert Rector wrote in the above Heritage paper, in Fiscal Year 2014, "Maine implemented a work requirement for ABAWDs. After the implementation of the work requirement, Maine's ABAWD caseload dropped substantially, by 80 percent within just a few months. If a federal work requirement for ABAWDs were enacted and achieved the same level of success as was achieved in Maine, the reform could save taxpayers up to $9.7 billion annually."

LePage also had the temerity to take on the food stamp program in other respects — including attempting to stop recipients from being provided with federally subsidized junk food. The U.S. Department of Agriculture rejected the move. The governor called this hypocritical, writing to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack that the Obama administration "goes to great lengths to police the menu of K-12 cafeterias, but looks the other way as billions of taxpayer dollars finance a steady diet of Mars bars and Mountain Dew."

In other words, the state wanted to provide what the feds claim they promote: healthy food. Washington would have nothing of such insubordination. You might think the feds would be happy to get some relief for a program that has grown by about five million since Barack Obama moved into the White House. Nope.

The head commissioner of the Maine Department of Health and Human Service, Mary Mayhew, sent the junk-food bid to the federal government in late 2015. As explained by the online Daily Signal, the agency "viewed the proposal as a way to curb what the state agency said was an obesity-related health crisis driving up both Medicaid and private insurance costs." The request was also, she said, consistent with the governor's goal to ensure that welfare goes to those needing it most. Melissa Quinn quoted the commissioner as follows in the Daily Signal:

> "What we allow and restrict in a taxpayer-funded nutrition program should be of concern to the federal government and certainly is of concern to the state and this administration," Mayhew said.
>
> According to her agency, Maine's obesity rate doubled from 14 percent to 28 percent in the past two decades. The state's incidence of diabetes also doubled from 3.9 percent to 9.5 percent.
>
> About 15 percent of Maine's population is on food stamps, and of those, 88 percent are also on Medicaid. Mayhew sees a connection between the food purchased with food stamps and the strain on the state Medicaid budget.
>
> "It is frustrating to have two federal agencies failing to connect the dots between the decisions of one to allow the purchase of these terribly unhealthy items, and you have the other federal agency paying for the health care costs associated with obesity and diabetes," Mayhew said.

Personal decisions, meanwhile, still do make a difference. And since money is fungible, even a junk-food ban would not ensure that welfare recipients necessarily spend other assets wisely. Consider the

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Portrayed as unfeeling: Liberal reporters, whom Maine Governor Paul LePage (shown) has publicly condemned as being biased, have criticized LePage for putting people off food stamps if they aren't willing to work. Since taxes pay for food stamps, doesn't that show he cares about Mainers?

group that the government places in the category of "Very Low Food Security." (During a typical month in 2013, one adult out of 30 across the country reportedly experienced VLFS; among children, the number was one in 165.)

Testimony before the National Commission on Hunger, a congressional body, has covered how various lifestyles have consequences. Rector, a senior research fellow for the Institute for Family, Community and Opportunity, offered these conclusions, among others, in his submission last year:

> Households with VLFS spend a quarter of their food dollars in fast-food restaurants and vending machines. Adults with VLFS drink nearly two cans of soda per day. Such spending patterns help to explain why these individuals may run short of money for food toward the end of the month. Public policy should encourage at-risk individuals to purchase healthier, less costly foods and to allocate food spending evenly throughout the month.
>
> Smoking is another major factor contributing to hunger or very low food security in the U.S. Some 45 percent of adults with VLFS regularly smoke cigarettes. Consuming 19 packs of cigarettes per month on average, these individuals spend an estimated $112 each month on tobacco. Since money spent on cigarettes cannot be spent on food, regular smoking in many cases leads directly to very low food security and hunger.
>
> Simply calling for more generous government food benefits in these circumstances is clearly inappropriate. Treating food security as a standalone nutrition issue independent of the behaviors linked to it will only lead to unwise public policy.

AP Images

Because they SNAP up junk food: Households in the United States that have "very low food security" spend a quarter of their food income in restaurants and vending machines, and 45 percent of them regularly smoke cigarettes, causing them to run short of money for food.

From the standpoint of those whose political and professional lives hang on making more Americans dependent on Washington, it makes entirely too much sense to have state governments in charge of such programs. There is a lot of money in the poverty business. Studies have shown that the funding on means-tested cash, food, and housing programs alone represents more than twice as much as is needed to eliminate all poverty in the entire country.

If such programs are going to remain run by the federal government, is it too much to require adults who are able to work to do so, or to train to hold a job, in exchange for benefits?

Working really does have a direct effect on poverty. Even a relatively moderate Republican task force has made this commonsense conclusion. As the force pointed out this summer: Of all working-age adults (between age 18 and 64) who were in poverty in 2014, almost two in three were not working at all and another 27 percent were working just part-time. On the other hand, only 2.7 percent of full-time workers were below the poverty level, compared to 32.3 percent of adults who do not work. And noted the task force, part-time work does make a considerable difference: Only 17.5 percent of part-time workers are below the government's poverty level.

The launching of the "war on poverty" in 1964 by President Lyndon Johnson came with a promise "not only to relieve the symptom of poverty, but to cure it and, above all, to prevent it." The explosion of welfare spending has assuredly not eliminated poverty. Indeed, the extent of the expenditures has exacerbated the situation. As noted by the GOP's Task Force on Poverty, Opportunity, and Upward Mobility:

> Almost one-third of the U.S. population receives benefits from at least one welfare program. But even though the federal government has spent trillions of taxpayer dollars on these programs over the past five decades, the official poverty rate in 2014 (14.8%) was no better than it was in 1966 (14.7%), when many of these programs started. In other words, though these programs have helped people cope with poverty, they haven't helped people get out of poverty.

While government may be inefficient, its actions do have consequences. The key problem is what it does. Here's how it works: If you want less of something, tax it. Alternatively, if you want more of something, subsidize it.

And the federal government has been subsidizing dependency with a vengeance. This endless aid has hurt far too many of its recipients. And the campaign has not been a sweet treat for the taxpayers, the oft-ignored casualties in the war on poverty. ■

— William P. Hoar

BY KURT WILLIAMSEN

Selective Outrage Over Trump's Affront

Donald Trump has been taking a lashing for supposedly implying, however vaguely, that if Hillary Clinton won the presidency, maybe gun owners could stop her from nominating anti-Second Amendment Supreme Court judges via assassinating her.

AP Images

To be fair to Clinton supporters, it did sound to me as if Trump did make an offhanded, ill-thought-out, bad joke about terminating Hillary should she win the presidency. He said, to be specific, "Hillary wants to abolish — essentially abolish — the Second Amendment. By the way, if she gets to pick, if she gets to pick her judges, nothing you can do, folks. Although the Second Amendment people, maybe there is, I don't know."

But what did Trump, who was speaking extemporaneously, actually mean? He has defended his comment by saying that he meant that Second Amendment supporters have enough political clout that maybe they could stop her from appointing bad judges.

Liberals are, of course, attacking Trump, with the Clinton campaign saying, "This is simple — what Trump is saying is dangerous. A person seeking to be president of the United States should not suggest violence in any way."

Liberal darling Elizabeth Warren took a lower road, claiming, "Donald Trump makes death threats because he's a pathetic coward who can't handle the fact that he's losing to a girl."

Even Big Government neocons got in their shots, with retired General Michael Hayden, the former director of the National Security Agency, telling CNN's Jake Tapper: "If someone else had said that outside the hall, he'd be in the back of a police wagon now with the Secret Service questioning him." His comments are somewhat ironic since Hayden spent his time at the NSA defending and condoning rampant violations of the Fourth Amendment's protections through warrantless spying on Americans.

What strikes me as obvious is that the only reason the media and political class are supposedly appalled is that the person they claim was threatened with assassination is one of their icons — and somehow killing one of their own is just not right.

Hypocritically, the media and Democrats sit silent when like-minded politicians and pundits make death threats: Many people have called for Julian Assange, the leader of WikiLeaks, to be assassinated, with Rush Limbaugh calling for government to put a bullet in his head and Hillary Clinton advisor Bob Beckel saying, "The way to deal with this is pretty simple. We've got special ops forces. I mean, a dead man can't leak stuff. The guy's a traitor, he's treasonous, and he has broken every law in the United States. And I'm not for the death penalty, so there's only one way to do it — illegally shoot the son of a b***h."

Where was the collective condemnation?

Even actually killing people is not condemned in most cases. Where were the appalled partisans when it was revealed that both President Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton approved drone strikes that killed hundreds of innocent civilians?

Oops, crickets chirping would have been louder — those killed obviously weren't part of an important voting demographic.

When Hillary Clinton said, about abortion, "The unborn person doesn't have constitutional rights," Hillary did get slightly skewered by media — because she called the killed baby a "person," instead of a "fetus."

She *didn't* get the "third degree" for supporting Planned Parenthood when that organization was caught selling human body parts from aborted babies, and neither did she get grilled for defending partial-birth abortions, literally inducing viable babies to be born and then snipping their spinal cords with scissors to kill them before they're completely out of their mothers.

In truth, the attacks on Trump are politically selective outrage (fake, made up, more of a bad joke than the one Donald made). As is clear, if the right types of people are killed — babies, cops, Pakistanis, Christians — assassination is OK for Trump's accusers.

If there is even one iota of sincere angst, it is only because the comment was made about a politically protected class of beings — though how politicians have come to obtain such a designation from anyone but politicians themselves is beyond me.

I actually understand people's emotional attachments to puppies, fur seals, polar bears, whales, and wolves. (Note again: If someone were to publicly condone the killing of one of those — or even the "fetus" of one — look for fallout from media, celebrities, and Democrats that would nearly equal Armageddon!)

But since *human* babies somehow don't make the grade for those deserving of protection, maybe it's not cuteness that counts, but simply the terminology with which one proposes an idea.

Perhaps if Trump had merely used the buzzwords of the Left, he could have gotten away scot-free after calling for knocking off Hillary. Maybe Trump should have simply noted that Hillary Clinton is a harmful entity that threatens the body to which it belongs, an unwanted useless mass of cells that limits personal freedom, and then called for her to be *retroactively aborted*. Perhaps. ■

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